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Scotch lover skips cashier

Police are hunting for a suspect after a $26,000 bottle of booze was stolen from an LCBO PAGE 3

The wedding bell boos

Hollywood has a knack for milking weddings both good and bad PAGE 15

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

SUSPECT DENIES TERROR PLOT

A woman, right, believed to be the mother of Raed Jaser, a Torontonian who is one of two men accused of plotting a terror attack on a rail target, leaves court in Toronto on Tuesday with two women also believed to be family members. Jaser's lawyer said outside court that his client "is in a state of shock and disbelief." Story, page 10. CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Top doc wants calorie, sodium info on menus

Mandatory counts. Board of health will consider proposal at Monday meeting

Toronto's top public-health official wants city council to force restaurant chains to list calorie and sodium counts on their menus — if the provincial government won't do so itself.

Toronto would be the first city in Canada to make calorie and sodium disclosure mandatory. And, if all the recommendations from medical officer of health Dr. David McKeown are accepted, its law would be stricter than similar menu-disclosure laws in the U.S.

McKeown wants Toronto's bylaw to cover chains with 10 or more restaurants across Canada, or $10 million in gross revenue. And he wants them to be compelled to post sodium information as well.

McKeown says the city's board of health should first urge the province to enact its own law. If the province doesn't do so by September, McKeown says, the city should begin developing a Toronto-specific bylaw.

"Given the high frequency of eating away from home and the prevalence of nutrition-related health concerns, people have a right to know what is in their food when eating out, just as they do when grocery shopping," McKeown says in a new report to the board of health.

Surveys have found strong public support for mandatory menu disclosure, but the proposal is sure to attract intense opposition from the restaurant industry.

What's more, as McKeown himself notes in his report, "evaluations of menu labelling programs in the U.S. have found mixed results." Some studies have shown that calorie-disclosure programs do not prompt consumers to make different decisions, while others have shown that they do.

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TIMMINS	WINDSOR	BOSTON	CHICAGO	MYRTLE BEACH	NEW YORK	WASHINGTON
3 x daily	4 x daily	5 x daily	5 x daily	5 x weekly	13 x daily	Dulles 3 x daily
$141	$123	$182	$193	$203	$175	$182
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Cops arrest one man in armed TD bank robbery

Toronto police have arrested a man in an armed TD bank robbery on Sunday. An employee and a customer were shot. COURTESY OF TORONTO POLICE

Police have one man in custody after Sunday's armed bank robbery in the city's west end that left one employee and a customer with gunshot wounds.

André Palmer, 26, of Brampton, was arrested Monday in that city without incident and charged with armed robbery, attempted murder, aggravated assault and two counts of possession of stolen property, said Staff Insp. Mike Earl. Palmer appeared in court Tuesday afternoon. On Monday, the Canadian Bankers Association offered up to $100,000 for information leading to arrests after two men entered a TD Canada Trust branch at St. Clair Ave. W. and Mould Ave. on Sunday armed with one semi-automatic handgun and made off with a small amount of cash.

Earl said Palmer was the unarmed man seen in footage; police are continuing to search for the shooter, seen in a black hoodie with the number "8" over his heart and a Chicago White Sox cap.

Earl said forensic evidence collected at the scene and from a vehicle connected to the robbery led them to Palmer.

"At the time of Mr. Palmer's arrest there was evidence on his person that linked him back to the bank robbery," Earl said.

When the unarmed robber jumps back over the counter, he is unexpectedly attacked by a customer, 54-year-old Carl Fraser, who in the end is shot in the abdomen. Another bullet hit a 22-year-old female employee in the leg as she cowered on the ground. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police searching for man who allegedly stole $26,000 scotch

Single malt. Bottle of Glenfiddich 50 Year Old swiped represents most expensive theft from an LCBO retail store

Police are looking for a man with a taste for the finer things, like the Burberry shirt he was wearing when he allegedly swiped a $26,000 bottle of single malt Glenfiddich from a waterfront Toronto LCBO store on April 7.

Police describe the suspect as five-foot-ten, aged between 35 and 45 years old, clean shaven with black framed glasses. He was last seen wearing black jeans and a Burberry plaid shirt, with a finish that includes a jaunty brown hat and brown trenchcoat.

While Glenfiddich characterizes its whisky as "rare, sought after, historic," the alleged crime can also be qualified with similar terms: It was the most expensive theft ever from an LCBO retail store, according to spokesperson Heather MacGregor. The bottle is one of only 15 in Ontario and 50 in the world, police noted.

Police say that just before 2 p.m. on April 7 the suspect walked into the store at 2 Cooper St. and Queens Quay, and took the bottle from a locked glass case in the store's Vintages section. He also chose a bottle of wine, which he paid for. The next day, the scotch was discovered missing.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Glenfiddich describes the single malt scotch as being "pale gold" in colour, aged 50 years, with "a beautifully harmonious, uplifting, vibrant and complex aroma," and a long finish "with a touch of dry oak and the merest trace of peat."

Security camera image of suspect in investigation into theft of $26,000 bottle of scotch from the LCBO at 2 Cooper Street. COURTESY OF TORONTO POLICE

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Murder trial. Accused's messages used as evidence

Text messages show how three youths plotted and carried out the murder of 16-year-old Tyrone Bracken in the stairwell of a Toronto Community Housing apartment building, prosecutors are alleging.

The Crown says the texts, synchronized with surveillance footage and telephone call logs, provide a running transcript of what happened shortly before and after Bracken was shot to death on Nov. 17, 2010 around 3:30 p.m., at 135 Neptune Dr., near Bathurst Street and Wilson Avenue.

The following is a small selection of some of the hundreds of texts in evidence at the trial, as well as the interpretation — in parenthesis — of what prosecutors and Toronto police gang expert Sgt. Gavin Jansz say the slang means.

Tyrone Bracken, pictured here, was 16 when he was killed. CONTRIBUTED

The d is outhere (One of Bracken's nicknames was Detroit)
...
Yo make me know wagwan b4 I go there with my girlfriend (Tell me what's going on before I go there with my gun)
He's going dt right now (Bracken is going downtown right now)
Naw keep him there
light I will (All right)
...
Yo have him in a stair case
...
were r u
In 35 (Bracken's mother lived at 135 Neptune Drive. He was killed in a stairwell)
yo im at side door
hurry up by theplay ground
Am on my way (The gap between these texts is when, the Crown says, Bracken was shot to death)
...
delete all messages
Yea
Did boy come yet (Did the police come yet?)
Ya yo the feds is at his door (The police are at someone's door)

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Indecent-assault charges

Former referee takes the stand

A former minor-league hockey referee took the stand Tuesday to deny molesting two brothers some 40 years ago. Michael Dimmick categorically denied violating the young boys while putting them to bed in their Toronto home. Both brothers have testified they were given piggybacks to their shared bedroom, where he would read them stories and fondle them under the covers.

Dimmick has pleaded not guilty to 12 counts of indecent assault and two of buggery involving the two brothers and two of their friends between 1968 and 1978. One of the brothers testified he was subjected to oral sex at least 1,000 times between the ages of 6 and 12.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Committee postpones transit funding debate

Strategic timing. Discussion of new taxes put off until one day after Metrolinx meeting

Commuters wait for a train at the Bloor-Yonge station. Coun. Adam Vaughan said council would be abdicating transit planning to surrounding cities if Toronto stays mum. "We have got to stand up to protect the interests of the city, and if the mayor doesn't want to do it, the rest of council must," he said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES FILE

Toronto's executive committee has backed Mayor Rob Ford's wish not to take any position on the issue of special taxes to pay for expanded transit.

The committee, chaired by Ford, voted 6-4 Tuesday to shelve until May 28 a staff report setting out preferred types of new taxes, rather than deal with a topic that's anathema to the mayor.

May 28 is one day after the board of Metrolinx is to decide on what transit funding tools it will recommend to the province. Putting off the discussion means the regional transit agency will have no input from Toronto on those recommendations.

Ford called for the deferral, saying people can't afford to pay more taxes.

City manager Joe Pennachetti's report recommended Toronto tell Metrolinx that it supports using region-wide development charges; gas taxes of 5 cents per litre; a $1 a day parking-space levy; and a 1 per cent sales tax, to generate anywhere from $1.8 billion to $3.6 billion a year for transit.

Metrolinx's $50-billion expansion plan requires long-term funding of about $2 billion annually, but Mayor Ford made clear he wanted no part in implementing new taxes.

"If the province wants to move ahead and be heroes and implement new taxes, go right ahead," Ford said. "Guaranteed, hell will freeze over before I support any new taxes.

"You might want the best transit system in the world, but if the average person can't afford it, then I'm sorry. We can't move ahead."

Fearing Ford would move to shelve the tax issue, councillors who want to move boldly to expand transit are pondering calling for a special council meeting to revive the issue, a move that requires two-thirds support (30 members of the 45-member council).

Ford's chief of staff, Mark Towhey, said councillors would be risking a backlash from voters if they reopen the taxation question. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

Other items addressed by the executive committee:

- **TIFF tax exemption.** In a unanimous vote, the committee supported a motion to grant the TIFF Bell Lightbox exemption from property tax — a benefit given to other "major cultural organizations" such as the National Ballet of Canada and Art Gallery of Ontario. The province must still approve the exemption.
- **Porter Airlines.** Mayor Ford launched a surprise motion, requesting that city staff look at reopening the tripartite agreement governing the island airport. The motion, which passed, lays the groundwork for a Porter expansion. City staff have been asked to advise on Porter's request to be allowed to fly jets and expand runways by July 3.
- **Queers Against Israeli Apartheid.** The question of whether to ban the group from the annual Pride parade was deferred to the next executive committee meeting, on May 28.

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Accused doctor highly recommended: Nurse

Sexual-assault trial. Nurse herself sought Dr. George Doodnaught for friends' operations

A long-time surgical nurse at North York General Hospital says a doctor on trial for allegedly sexually assaulting 21 women was a respected anesthesiologist most often recommended by staff.

At the trial of Dr. George Doodnaught on Tuesday, Kathy Williams testified that he "cares about his patients and makes them feel at ease and relaxed prior to surgery."

Williams said she herself made three personal requests for Doodnaught's services for her friends, and he was able to accommodate one.

"I knew he is a very good anesthesiologist and I take very good care of my friends."

The 64-year-old has pleaded not guilty in Ontario Superior Court to 21 counts of sex assault involving 21 women, aged 25 to 75, all but one under surgery at North York General between 2006 and 2010.

Williams was present during two of the surgeries under scrutiny and said she recalled nothing unusual, apart from one of the patients, a young woman, being terrified.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Doctor on call

"He was the one most of the staff asked for if they had friends or family or even themselves if they had surgery."

Surgical nurse Kathy Williams

Dr. Doodnaught, accused of sexual assault. COLIN MCCONNELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

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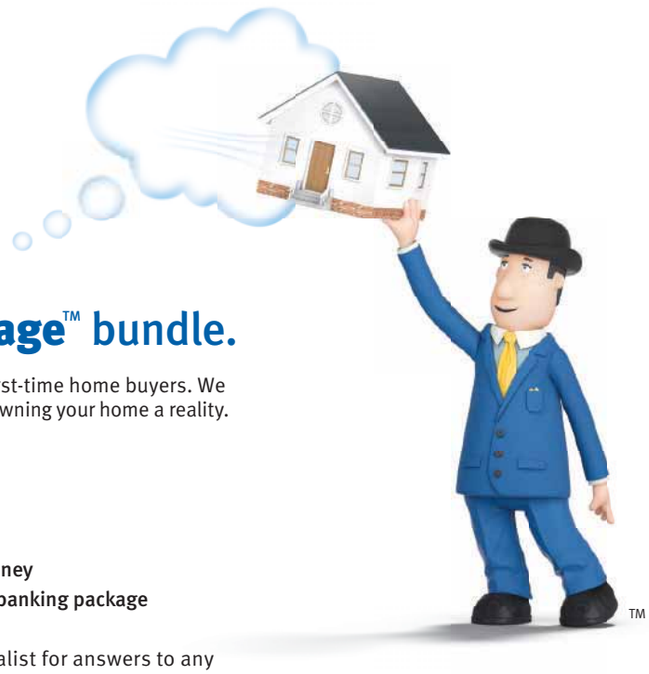

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Scarborough Hospital. MPPs call for supervisor to take over, end strife

Two Liberal MPPs are calling on the provincial government to appoint a supervisor to take over control of the Scarborough Hospital, following an outcry from public and staff over proposals to reorganize services.

Bas Balkissoon (Scarborough-Rouge River) and Soo Wong (Scarborough-Agincourt) are both seeking "third-party intervention."

But Health Minister Deb Matthews said it's too soon to use such a "heavy hammer." She wants the hospital's incoming CEO and board chair to be given the chance to tackle the problems.

Wong and Balkissoon charge that residents and staff have lost confidence in the hospital's leadership. Last month, its board gave preliminary approval to reorganize services, despite major opposition.

Hate among healers

"The whole atmosphere is very toxic ... and that is going to end up hurting the general public."

Liberal MPP Bas Balkissoon on the divisions at Scarborough Hospital.

To address a $15.7-million budget shortfall, the board called for splitting birthing and surgical services between the hospital's Birchmount Road site and general site on Lawrence Avenue E. Naysayers warned the changes could put patients at risk through delays in emergency transfers between locations.

In response to the opposition, the Central East Local Health Integration Network put a hold on the plans.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Diluted chemo scandal

Safe to use drugs from discredited supplier: Minister

There's no need for 11 Ontario hospitals that are buying drug mixtures from Marchese Hospital Solutions to stop using them until proper oversight is put in place, Health Minister Deb Matthews said Tuesday.

"Hospitals are very focused on this and they are looking at their quality assurance," she said.

Marchese has come under scrutiny since it was discovered that 1,200 patients received diluted drugs from the company.

Health Canada has said there was no oversight of Marchese and that it doesn't know how many such companies are operating. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Immigration

Comatose nanny has wish granted

As Maricon Gerente lay unresponsive in an Oakville hospital bed, an array of tubes keeping her alive, two immigration officials unexpectedly entered.

Gerente, a Filipino nanny who dreamed of obtaining her permanent residency and then bringing her two daughters to Canada, has had her first wish come true.

On Tuesday, while her daughters waited outside, officials lifted Gerente's hand and, in lieu of her signature, inked a fingerprint on the documents.

However, the chance of the girls being allowed to stay in Canada is up in the air: currently, the door remains open only as long as their mother stays alive. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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BELEAF IT OR NOT: 3 THINGS YOU MAY NOT KNOW ABOUT THE MAPLE LEAFS

Early days of the Leafs

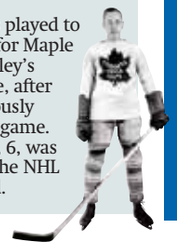
The National Hockey League was founded in 1917 to spite Eddie Livingstone, owner of Toronto's pre-NHL team, the Toronto Blueshirts of the National Hockey Association. That season, the team was just a temporary team without an official name — unofficially called the Blueshirts, the Torontos or the Arenas. It won the Stanley Cup in the NHL's first season, but it wasn't until 1947 that the NHL engraved "Toronto Arenas 1918" on the Cup. The Toronto Blueshirts won the 1914 Stanley Cup, predating the NHL.

The team colour was once green

In 1919, the Toronto Arenas went bankrupt, changed hands and were rechristened the Toronto St. Patricks. That team won the 1922 Stanley Cup.

First all-star game in 1934

League stars played to raise funds for Maple Leaf Ace Bailey's medical care, after he was seriously injured in a game. His number, 6, was the first in the NHL to be retired.



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WHEN: Monday, April 29, from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

WHERE: Gate 1 at the Air Canada Centre.

WHY: The most passionate fan will be featured on the front page of Metro the day of the 1st playoff game and receives 2 playoff tickets. 4 runners-up receive gift packs from Real Sports Apparel that include Leafs jerseys.

WHAT: The first 500 fans to show us their love for the Leafs qualify. See details at clubmetro.com.

Lots of choice for jersey girls

CONTRIBUTED/REAL SPORTS APPAREL

Leafs gear

'Hockey' and 'fashion' no longer at odds

Women whose passion for the Leafs have been reignited now that the team has made the playoffs can rejoice now that those boxy, frumpy, oversized jerseys of yesteryear are no longer the only options. Today's apparel offers style, variety and flattering cuts.

Jeff Budway, director of merchandise and retail operations at MLSE, says the change came for them about five years ago when they noticed a lack of choices for women.

"Our women's business was only two per cent of our total sales in apparel," he says. "We saw it as a huge opportunity for growth, as women have become far more active in terms of participation within fan-based sports."

To attract more female fans, Real Sports Apparel expanded its womenswear to include lightweight pima cotton shirts tailored with a slimmer waist and different necklines.

The success of the changes is evident, according to Budway, who says MLSE's women's apparel now makes up 20 per cent of its total sales.

What used to be worn by women only during games is now fashionable even outside the arena, he says.

"With thousands of people that view the games inside a pretty hip and sophisticated sports bar on any given night, they want something that's going to be fashionable, functionable and hip enough to go out in and still look cool," Budway says.

PHOEBE HO/ FOR METRO

True blue

Based on feedback from women, Real Sports Apparel says it tries to keep its Leafs jerseys authentic, carrying only the team colours and eliminating the pink and sparkles.

- The main differences now are in the fit:
  - Slimmer in the waist, as opposed to the boxy cut;
  - Narrower shoulders;
  - Personalized with a player name and number;
  - The crested shoulders, Leafs centre chest logo, stitching and striping found on men's jerseys are also available for women.

What fans say

"It's more fitted and I like that. It gives me a reason to wear it for more than just hockey games." Jaclyn McBay

"I think they should look like a jersey. They're supposed to be loose-fitting and athletic-looking." Laura Clarry

"I wanted to wear a jersey that not a lot of people have, and I think when you buy the pink-and-white jersey, proceeds go to breast-cancer research." Sonia Sharma

Go, Leafs, go!

Five bars to catch the Leafs game

A whole generation of 20-something fans has never had a chance to watch Toronto playoff hockey in a pub. Here are five places to cheer on the Blue and White:

Real Sports Bar and Grill, 15 York St. A go-big-or-go-home sports bar a mere step from the Air Canada Centre, with a 39-foot HD TV and 199 other HD TVs at the bar.

The Loose Moose, 146 Front St. W. With 54 draft beers on tap, TVs everywhere and a location just around the corner from the ACC, the Loose Moose will be a place to go come playoff time.

Wayne Gretzky's, 99 Blue Jays Way By name alone this sports bar is on this list. Filled with memorabilia of the Great One himself and 20 HD TVs in the bar alone, it's a destination for hockey fans.

Shakey's, 2255 Bloor St. W. Shakey's takes its name from Mike (Shakey) Walton, a Maple Leafs forward the last time Toronto won the Stanley Cup, in 1967, and the bar's original owner. Inside are two gold seats from Maple Leaf Gardens and walls lined with photos and memorabilia from the good old days.

Wegz, 2601 Rutherford Rd. A true stadium bar, the 23,000-square-feet Wegz boasts more than 100 HD TVs, including massive HD projection screens and a TV at every booth. If the game isn't going well, WEGZ also has pool tables and golf simulators.

GREG DOWNS/FOR METRO

Family's tragic pilgrimage

Rehtaeh Parsons. Her Nova Scotia kin meet Stephen Harper in the wake of her death after cyber-bullying

Rehtaeh Parsons' family met with Prime Minister Stephen Harper privately on Tuesday to discuss changes to the criminal code in the wake of their daughter's death.

Rehtaeh's father, Glen Canning, said after the meeting he doesn't know what the federal government can or will do.

But he said the meeting with Harper was "heartfelt" and he was convinced the prime minister cares about his daughter's case.

Rehtaeh's family alleges she was sexually assaulted at a party and images of the 15-year-old were transmitted online.

She attempted to hang herself and was taken off life support days later.

The family wants the criminal code changed to stop the Internet transmission of such intimate images without consent.

Canning was very clear about what the family is asking for.

"I'm looking for someone who posts a picture of someone with the intention of completely destroying their life to be held accountable for doing that.

"And right now they just weren't. And that's frustrating. That's very frustrating."

ALEX BOUTILIER/METRO IN OTTAWA

Nova Scotia Premier Darrell Dexter, right, arrives on Parliament Hill with Rehtaeh Parsons' family on Tuesday. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Boston bombing. Jihad websites held a deadly allure for both suspects

The dead Boston bombing suspect, Tamerlan Tsarnaev, was an ardent reader of jihadist websites and extremist propaganda, U.S. officials said on Tuesday.

And evidence suggests he and his wounded brother, Dzhokhar Tsarnaev, were both motivated by an anti-American, radical version of Islam, the officials said.

Officials said Tamerlan, 26, frequently looked at extremist sites, including Inspire magazine, an English-language online publication produced by al-Qaida's Yemen affiliate. The magazine has endorsed lone-wolf terror attacks.

Meanwhile, 19-year-old Dzhokhar — suffering from a gunshot wound to the throat — was questioned in hospital by investigators, who let him write down his replies.

Dzhokhar has been charged with using and conspiring to use a weapon of mass destruction.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Faraway tears

U.S. investigators travelled to southern Russia on Tuesday to talk to the parents of the Boston bomb suspects.

- **Mother.** The suspects' mother, Zubeidat Tsarnaeva (above), appeared outside her home for the first time since the furor.
- **Sadness.** She is in "very bad shape" and cries as she watches video of her dead son, said rights activist Heda Saratova.

Syrian group?

Hackers hit U.S. news giant, claim Obama hurt

Hackers compromised Twitter accounts of The Associated Press on Tuesday, sending out a false tweet about an attack at the White House.

The false tweet said there had been two explosions at the White House and that President Barack Obama was injured.

The Syrian Electronic Army claimed responsibility. It has taken credit for web attacks on targets it sees as sympathetic to Syria's rebels.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Queen's Park idea

All aboard ... for security checks on trains?

The Ontario government wants to talk with its federal counterparts about beefing up security on passenger trains after the arrest of two men accused of planning to attack a VIA Rail train.

Attorney General John Gerretsen says airport security has received the lion's share of attention, but he thinks it may be time to change that. He says checking passengers' bags before they board trains is a possibility.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Men deny VIA Rail terrorist plot; ‘Let police do their job,’ dad says

Al-Qaida in Iran to blame? Two charged over alleged plan to hit passenger train appear in court

Talk about a media scrum! John Norris, Raed Jaser’s lawyer, is surrounded by microphones and cameras at a Toronto courthouse on Tuesday. Jaser is seen in a court sketch at bottom right. Co-accused Chiheb Esseghaier, top right, attended court in Montreal. Both are charged in what the RCMP says is the first alleged al-Qaida plot in Canada. TARA WALTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE (LEFT) AND THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two men charged in an alleged al-Qaida-backed terror plot to attack a VIA Rail passenger train disputed the allegations against them Tuesday as they made their first appearances in court.

Raed Jaser, 35, and Chiheb Esseghaier, 30, are facing several terrorism charges each in what the RCMP is calling the first known alleged plot in Canada directed by the terrorist organization.

Esseghaier, who appeared in Montreal, stood calmly in the witness box and asked to address the court.

“The conclusions were made based on acts and words which are only appearances,” he said.

The judge, Pierre Labelle, explained it wasn’t the right venue for his remarks.

Both Esseghaier and Jaser are charged with conspiracy to murder for the benefit of a terrorist group, participating in a terrorist group and conspiring to interfere with transportation facilities for the benefit of a terrorist group.

Several family members attended Jaser’s brief Toronto court appearance.

“Of course I am supporting my son, of course,” said his father, Mohammed Jaser, as about two dozen journalists surrounded him. “Let the police do their job.”

Jaser and Esseghaier were both charged Monday in an alleged plot that the Mounties said involved the “direction and guidance” from al-Qaida in Iran. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Lewd photos. Threat of distribution enough to coerce girls, says prof

Threats to distribute naked pictures of six teen girls allegedly made by two accused teen pimps would have been enough to coerce the girls into prostitution, said a University of Ottawa bullying expert Tuesday.

"The shunning and fear of that instills more fear than having a sexual encounter with a stranger. That speaks volumes," said Tracy Vaillancourt, with Canada Research Chairs, who studies bullying and peer victimization.

"Girls bully other girls and call them sluts. That's the worst that you could be called in a sense," she said, pointing out the alleged victims would have an easier time keeping one-on-one sexual encounters private than having lewd photos of themselves distributed online.

"They threatened to steal my stuff and tell people what I did and probably send the pictures out to people," one alleged victim told a defence lawyer at the courthouse Tuesday.

GRAHAM LANKTREE/METRO IN OTTAWA

The threat of having lewd photos distributed online can be enough to coerce girls into prostitution, says an expert on bullying. ISTOCK IMAGES

Teen wanted to walk on wild side: Lawyer

Trial. Defence lawyer's barb leaves alleged pimping victim in tears; says she feared blackmail and abuse

GRAHAM LANKTREE
Metro in Ottawa

A teen girl allegedly pimped out by two others was taking a walk on the wild side when she met two johns and got in too deep, a defence lawyer charged Tuesday before the girl began to sob on the witness stand.

"Word got out on the street that (accused one) and (accused two) were spending time with men, being escorts and getting paid for it," said attorney Ken Hall, as he suggested what happened the night of May 18, 2012, when the 17-year-old girl says she was sexually exploited.

"The turning point was when man two brought the white lines out," said Hall, referring to the second john the girl encountered and her testimony that he had white lines of powder on a table in his apartment connected to a warehouse in Ottawa's east end. "That's when the whole house of cards came crashing down. That scared you?"

The teen indicated she was scared of him already, since he was more than twice her age and suspected the white powder may have been cocaine. "I wanted to get out of there already. But it made it scarier for me," she said before she asserted she didn't lie in her statement to police.

The two girls are among three teens accused of pimping out six teen girls between May 18 and June 3, 2012. The trio face a litany of charges including human trafficking.

"She came over, we had pizza. We had vodka cranberry," an alleged john says of his meeting with a 15-year-old girl during testimony in an Ottawa courtroom. She is one of three teens accused of pimping out six teen girls not much younger or older than themselves. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

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Listen to your father: Minister

Apology. Valcourt says sorry after exchange of words with NDP MP over bill protecting matrimonial rights on reserves

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt in the House of Commons during question period in Ottawa. FRED CHARTRAND/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Aboriginal Affairs Minister Bernard Valcourt has apologized after telling an NDP MP to listen to her father about supporting a Conservative bill to protect matrimonial rights on reserves.

Valcourt made the comment in response to criticisms from MP Niki Ashton, whose father, Steve Ashton, is a cabinet minister in the Manitoba government.

Manitoba has said it supports the Conservative bill, which aims to allow spouses living both on and off reserves the same rights to claim a share of the family's assets in the event of a marriage breakdown.

At committee hearings on the bill Tuesday, Ashton told Valcourt and Status of Women Minister Rona Ambrose to pay more attention to First Nations demands for a national inquiry into violence against aboriginal women.

"Maybe you should be listening to your father," Valcourt responded.

"The legislative assembly of Manitoba … exhorted us to pass Bill S-2."

Ashton immediately responded that she was "offended" by Valcourt's reference to her father.

"If we're talking about paternalism, it takes many forms. Asking me who I talk to or don't talk to from my family is not part of what we're talking about in this committee."

Valcourt's apology comes less than a month after he apologized to NDP MP Romeo Saganash for questioning whether the noted Cree leader was of First Nations heritage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Chatham-Kent

Driver drank before hydrant crash: Cops

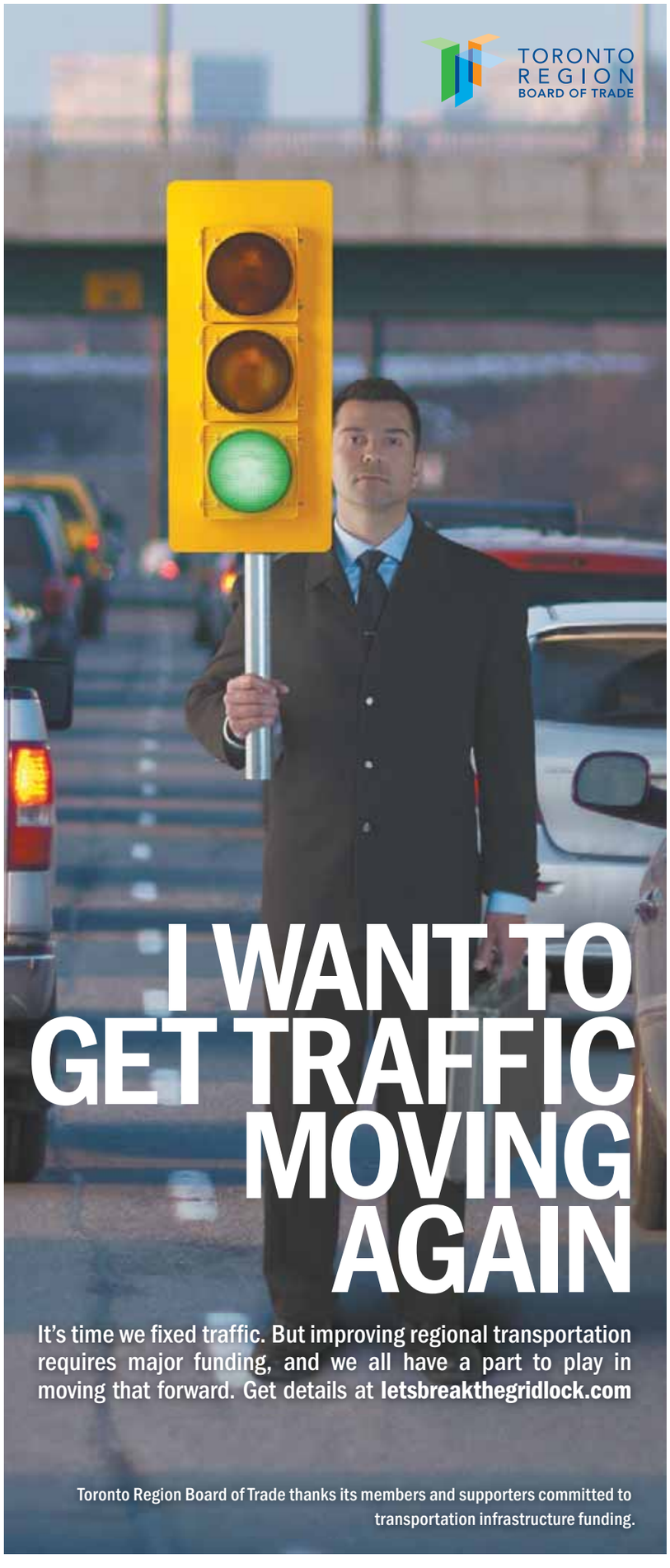
Police in Chatham-Kent allege a school-bus driver had been drinking Monday when he crashed into a fire hydrant with a child on board in Raleigh Township around 4 p.m.

According to police, the driver tested in the "warn" range. The child on the bus was not injured.

The 53-year-old driver was charged with careless driving and was issued a three-day suspension. LUKE SIMCOE/METRO ONLINE

A title worth drooling over

Huckleberry is crowned the winner of the 34th annual Drake Relays Beautiful Bulldog Contest on Monday in Des Moines, Iowa. The pageant kicks off the Drake Relays festivities at Drake University, where a bulldog is the mascot. CHARLIE NEIBERGALL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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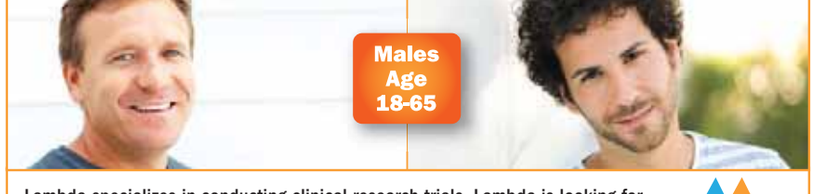

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India's outsourcing firms face U.S. backlash

Hewlett-Packard employees work at the company's Business Process Outsourcing centre in Bangalore, India, in this 2007 photo. For years, India's multibillion-dollar outsourcing industry skated over criticism that it was eliminating white-collar jobs in rich nations. Now, the industry's long-held fears of a backlash are being realized in its crucial U.S. market. Provisions in an overhaul of U.S. immigration law will close loopholes that allow outsourcing companies, both Indian and American, to pay guest workers in the U.S. at rates often below wages for equivalent-level Americans. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Foreign workers program is meant for high-skilled positions, Carney says

Last hurrah. At his final appearance before the finance committee, BoC governor tackles variety of sensitive subjects

Bank of Canada governor Mark Carney says the controversial temporary foreign workers program should not be used to drive wages down or to fill lower-skilled jobs.

Speaking to the Commons finance committee for the last time before his departure for London in June, Carney said the intent of the program is that it be used primarily to fill needs for high-skilled jobs temporarily, until businesses can train Canadians to take over.

Mark Carney at a finance committee hearing, Tuesday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

In a two-hour appearance Tuesday, Carney used the occasion to touch on a number of politically sensitive subjects, including the government's move to increase tariffs on imports from 72 countries, the labour market, the Canada-U.S. price gap, and the contentious foreign-workers program.

The challenge of a skills shortage is not unique to Canada, Carney said, but the solution is training — not bringing in temporary foreign workers. Contrary to some views, he added, Canada's labour market is among the most flexible in terms of mobility among industrialized countries.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

RBC outsourcing furor

- The foreign-workers program became a hot potato for the federal government after an outsourcing company doing work for the Royal Bank of Canada brought in foreign workers to do work that had been done by about 45 Canadians at the bank.

Forecast

Canada Post could have billion-dollar losses by 2020, says Conference Board

A think-tank commissioned by Canada Post is warning that the Crown corporation will be losing $1 billion a year by the end of this decade.

The Conference Board of Canada says the postal service is being hit by a dramatic reduction in volumes in the age of digital communication.

It estimates that the volume of bills, invoices, advertising and publications handled by Canada Post will decline by more than 25 per cent by 2020.

The volume of parcel delivery is expected to buck the trend and grow by 26 per cent due to online shopping, but the Conference Board says it won't be enough to offset the revenue lost in other areas.

The report says price increases won't be enough to make Canada Post self-sustaining. It estimates $576 million a year could be saved by eliminating door-to-door delivery for urban homes that get it — about one-third of Canada's households.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

New stamps honouring classic Canadian rock bands including The Tragically Hip, Rush, The Guess Who and Beau Dommage will be available July 19. CANADA POST/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.45¢ (-0.01¢)

Natural gas: $4.23 US (-4¢)
Dow Jones: 14,719.46 (+152.29)

TSX 12,090.94 (+0.26)

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JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

If you're having a bad day here on Earth, consider the alternative.

How about a bad day on Mars?

Applications are now open for people who want to be the first settlers on Mars.

It may sound like science fiction, but Mars One, the company offering the gig, swears they'll have you there by 2023, which is only a decade away.

But there's a catch.

Mars One has the technology to get you there, but the technology to get you home doesn't exist.

It's like that Eagles anthem, Hotel California. "You can check out any time you like, but you can never leave."

So it's a one-way ticket to the Red Planet.

I don't know about you, but I've always wanted to go to Mars, I'm just not sure I want to be stuck there.

At first blush, it sounds romantic, but sometime around year four, you might want to order in pizza or hit the clubs, and whaddaya know? No pizza parlours. No clubs.

Just more of that astronaut food that tastes like Tang and dog biscuits.

Therefore, Mars One is looking for a special kind of person.

Someone who is nuts enough to spend the rest of his or her life stuck in a climate-controlled hut the size of a portable toilet but well-adjusted enough not to try to eat his or her fellow castaways.

If you're that kind of person, Mars One is for you.

All you need to do is convince the Mars One people that you're the best nutbar of all the nutbars applying for the nutbar job, plus you've got the $33 registration fee. Deadline is Aug. 31, 2013.

Before you sign up, you should know that the average temperature on Mars is -55 C.

That will give applicants from Siberia and Canada the inside track. If you're from Novosibirsk or Winnipeg, it will feel just like home.

Other than thicker than normal heads or blood, applicants require no special skills, as they will spend seven years training and getting ready.

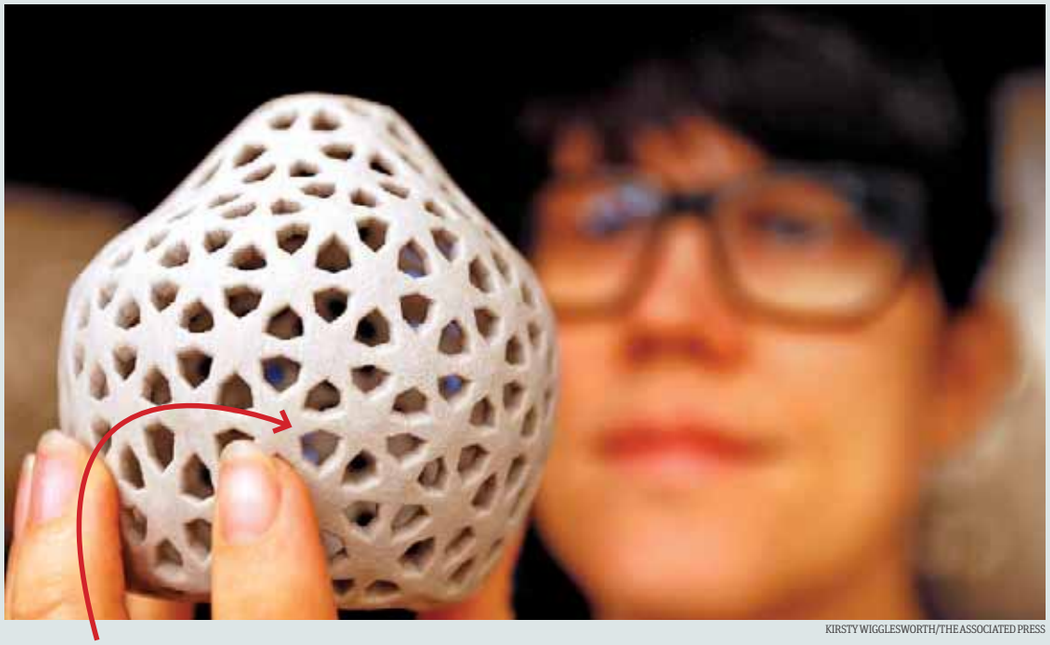
So, as you'd expect, the gallery of geeks featured on the Mars One website are all cut from the same cloth: basement-dwellers with bad facial hair. And that includes the women, with the clear exception of Ilona, 23, from Finland. You could almost imagine spending the next 63 years in a hermetically sealed bin with Ilona, who says she wants to devote herself to the good of mankind and enjoys the humour that comes from well-crafted subtlety.

Such as the prospect of being stuck on Mars with Jason, 24, from the U.S., who has an associate degree in welding and aspires to a bachelor's degree in welding engineering, for the rest of her life.

Somehow I think all this is going to end in tears. Too bad that on Mars, no one can hear you scream.

ZOOM

Would you like insects with that?



KIRSTY WIGGLESWORTH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tastes like chicken

Designer Penelope Kupfer displays a biscuit made from insect flour at the Wellcome Collection in London, England, on Tuesday.

The exhibition of illuminated, room-high insect traps, dramatic light projections of creepy crawlies and 3D printing of food made from bugs is a new installation called Insects au Gratin which explores the benefits of eating bugs, as part of a new series called Who's the Pest? organized with Pestival — the cultural organization dedicated to our relationship with insects and the natural world.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Slimy yet satisfying

Have you ever imagined yourself on Fear Factor, eating bugs? The exhibit aims to expand our invertebrate consumption by suggesting that entomophagy (eating insects) is a sustainable solution to an impending food crisis.

Apparently, insects can be nutritious: four grasshoppers provide the same amount of calcium as a glass of milk. And, by weight, dung beetles have more protein than beef.

The installation, which runs through May 5, allows guests to draw the shape of their food and experiment with 3D printing. METRO

Clickbait

HANNAH ZITNER
hannah.zitner@metronews.ca

JENELLEBOYCE/FLICKR

If you haven't already experienced the amazingly awkward Experience Regina tourism video with its still shots of high school graduation, the 'snax' bar and a bikini-clad Prairie babe, check it out on YouTube. In light of the Queen City video's fresh press (though the video is from 2008) we've dug up more tourism fails (or works of genius) from the video-sharing site.

Woody Goomsba visits Leavenworth, WA:
"Shouting out to the centre of the state" certainly is done best to rap music with kilt wearing ladies grinding a wooden mascot named Woody Goomsba while Mrs. Goomsba looks on angrily.

Vancouver Tourism with Karen Campbell:
According to Vancouver Tourism's ancient video, Vancouver is the 'simply spectacular' land of mermaids, cowboys and retired tourists — and also, a lot of people wearing florescent crop tops. Can you find dancer Karen Campbell?

Pattaya Country:
OK, maybe not 'everybody' is dancing, but certainly this young Thai boy is getting his groove on in Pattaya, Thailand. But it seems like there's only enough for one dancer in this South Asian destination — as he steps back from provincial lines, his moves seem to go with him.

Comments

RE: How The World Will Change In 2043: We'll Turn Into Bots And Upload Our Memory, published April 22

I think those futurists are a bit looney and need to be taken back to the lunatic asylum for their meds. I'm sorry I might work in IT but I prefer keeping the hardware outside of my flesh. Uploading our memories to the Internet in a cloud-based system would be a bad idea. Would you want a hacker to be able to hack into your brain directly? As for people switching limbs out for robotic limbs, I don't see that happening. If I hold hands with a girl I want it to be her physical hand not a metal plastic monstrosity unless she was in some sort of accident.

Taggart Romkey posted to metronews.ca

"Progeny of the oblivious"? Sorry but the future children you talk about won't be oblivious to their world just because their parents are. Look at the current youth generation difference and their parents which you also comment on. The apple does fall far from the tree, and then rolls off in another direction.

DaleWale posted to metronews.ca

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: torontoletters@metronews.ca

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Interview

The American dream, plus a lap dance or two

If anyone is living the American dream, it's Bar Paly. In the last few years, the Israeli actress and model has been landing increasingly bigger roles in TV and film, including parts in How I Met Your Mother and The Starter Wife, and in the film A Glimpse Inside the Mind of Charles Swan III.

So it seems fitting that her biggest project to date is a dark riff on the American dream. Pain & Gain is a true crime story about a group of bodybuilders (dubbed the Sun Gym Gang) doing bad things in mid 1990s Miami.

In the film, Paly plays a stripper with big ambitions of becoming a Hollywood star, and she admits it was intimidating walking onto a set with a list of big names.

"It was so overwhelming," she says. "And on top of that you have to act against Mark Wahlberg. I was trying to pretend that everything is cool, but inside I was screaming 'I'm reading lines with Wahlberg.'"

"In the first few days he gave me the scenes where I didn't have to actually talk too much, it was more the lap dance and sex scenes," she says, laughing. "It was like, 'Hi, nice to meet you Mark Wahlberg, now here's my hair in your face while I give you a lap dance.'"

LIZ BROWN/ METRO

Robert De Niro and Diane Keaton star as a divorced couple in The Big Wedding. HANDOUT

Nuptials often turn nasty going down theatre aisles

The Big Wedding. The latest big screen effort is just one in a long line of movies where hilarity and horror dominate the story

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

In The Big Wedding, a long-divorced couple, played by Robert De Niro and Diane Keaton, pretend to be happily married at their adopted son's wedding for the benefit of his biological mother.

Hijinks ensue, but like all movies with the word "wedding" in the title, audiences don't buy a ticket for the shenanigans. They go to see the ceremony.

Anything that happens before the walk down the aisle is window dressing, the journey that gets the audience where they really want to be — at the altar.

The famous wedding scene in The Godfather — including the much-quoted Luca Brasi line, "Don Corleone, I am honoured and grateful that you have invited me to your home on the wedding day of your daughter. And may their first child be a masculine child," — featured many Staten Island Italian-Americans as extras.

They were invited to the set to enjoy homemade wine, traditional Italian food and enjoy themselves as though it were a real wedding.

Inspiration for the film Four Weddings and a Funeral came when writer Richard Curtis realized he had been to 72 weddings in 10 years.

The movie, about a confirmed bachelor who discovers love, made an international star of Hugh Grant, who won the role after auditioning with a tape from when he was best man at his brother's wedding.

Both those films, plus others like Wedding Crashers, My Big Fat Greek Wedding and Fiddler on the Roof feature wonderful wedding scenes. But what about when nuptials turn nasty?

Who could forget Mr. Robinson howling, "You punk! You crazy punk! I'll kill you!" at the lovesick Benjamin (Dustin Hoffman) in The Graduate after he interrupted the wedding of Elaine Robinson (Katharine Ross) to another man? Elaine leaves her intended at the altar, running off with Ben to an uncertain future, creating one of the classic endings in movie history.

In Runaway Bride Richard Gere plays a reporter investigating the story of Maggie Carpenter, a serial bride who has had multiple disastrous weddings, leaving three men at the altar. "Always a bride," she says, "never a bridesmaid!"

The biggest bummer wedding in movie history has to be in Kill Bill Vol. 2.

"How it happened, who was there, how many got killed and who killed them, changes depending on who's telling the story," says The Bride (Uma Thurman). "In actual fact, the massacre didn't happen during a wedding at all. It was a wedding rehearsal."

Famous quotes

"Don Corleone, I am honoured and grateful that you have invited me to your home on the wedding day of your daughter. And may their first child be a masculine child."

Luca Brasi
In the famous wedding scene in The Godfather

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Revolution. From mud pies to bruises, Spiridakos is living the dream

Revolution stars Tracy Spiridakos and is airing Mondays on NBC.
MATT SAYLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whether she's hopping off cliffs, battling rogue bandits or surviving in the post-apocalyptic wilderness, Tracy Spiridakos makes roughing it in the futuristic wild west of NBC's Revolution look easy.

That's partly because the self-described tomboy feels right at home playing the intrepid heroine in J.J. Abrams' latest sci-fi offering about a world without electricity.

"She's definitely a rough and tough, can rumble kind of chick," said Spiridakos. "I can relate."

Spiridakos grew up in Greece and Canada climbing trees, playing street hockey and making mud pies with her two older brothers.

"I think this is the most feminine that I've ever been," she said in a recent interview. "I bought a dress a little while ago ... and it was just for fun. I was like 'I don't even know who this person is anymore!'"

Not surprisingly Spiridakos lives for stunt days on set. She's often begging the crew to let her take a stab at the more challenging feats, even relishing the occasional injury.

"Bruises are the good war wounds. I'll go show my fiancé afterward. I'm like, 'Look!' He's like, 'Oh god, Trace.' And it will be a nice, big bloody wound," she explained, beaming with pride.

Revolution is Spiridakos' first lead role for American television and she's still pinching herself.

"I literally came to L.A. like every actor does from this little town with this big dream and I'm living in it now," she said. "It's mind-blowing."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Keeping grounded

Spiridakos is engaged to Canadian actor Jon Cor. She calls her brothers her "heart and soul" and credits them with keeping her grounded. And when she's not filming she's still expected to pick up shifts at the family-owned Greek restaurant in Winnipeg.

- **Quote.** "I love that because it's easy to get wrapped up in the world you're in," she said. "So when I go home I get to go back to the basics."

With so much drama in the industry ...

Love & Hip Hop. Mona Scott-Young's reality TV series overcomes backlash — for now — but complaints continue to roll in on controversial show

Mona Scott-Young used to wake up in cold sweat at night, wondering if she made the right decision to leave her list of high-profile hip-hop clients to branch off and create reality television shows.

That's a dilemma the creator of the popular reality series Love & Hip-Hop on VH1 doesn't have to worry about anymore.

"I was leaving something that I had built for nearly 20 years of my life," recalled Scott-Young, who was the co-founder of Violator Management with the late Chris Lighty. Their company represented some of music's top artists from LL Cool J to 50 Cent to Missy Elliot.

Feeling complacent and unfulfilled, Scott-Young left Violator and started her own film production company, Monami Entertainment.

The fear was strong, she said,

"But it was exhilarating to start over because I had a new lease on life, venturing into territories unknown for me and just starting from scratch."

Love & Hip-Hop, created with Jim Ackerman, is broken up into two different shows — one based in New York and another in Atlanta. Each show primarily focuses on six women and the supporting cast of men who are connected to the hip-hop industry, following their personal lives and careers.

Mona Scott-Young is the creator of the VH1 reality show Love & Hip Hop in Atlanta. JOHN AMIS. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The series doesn't include any big names, but the over-the-top dramatic story lines make it compelling to watch — and also a target of criticism.

The second season of L&HH: Atlanta premieres Monday night on VH1, starring Stevie J, K. Michelle, Lil Scrappy and Rasheeda. It returns after pulling in strong ratings last season with an average of 2.8 million viewers and 4.4 million in the second part of the show's reunion last year, according to Nielsen.

Face to the name

"Before, people heard of my name but didn't know what I looked like. I relish the character that I am on television. People are amused by our stories."

Stevie J
Talking about being on Love & Hip Hop

The New York version finished its third season last month, pulling in an average of nearly two million viewers. Some of the cast members include Yandy Smith, Tahiry Jose and Joe Budden.

"Mona allowed these women to tell their story, and guys like me to be known," said Stevie J, a Grammy-winning producer who is a self-proclaimed womanizer caught in a love triangle between longtime girlfriend Mimi Faust and Joseline Hernandez. "Before, people heard of my name but didn't know what I looked like. I relish the character that I am on television. People are amused by our stories."

Even though L&HH has drawn millions of viewers, it has been under fire. Some petitioned for the show's cancellation, saying it depicted African-American women in a negative light. Some also criticized the series for its frequent fights and focusing on the drama more than the music. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

I got your nose, Ryan, do you love me now?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

Ryan Lochte is having a hard time finding love.

"I haven't been in a relationship in a year," the Olympian and star of the new reality TV show What Would Ryan Lochte Do? tells the new issue of In Touch. "Every time I date someone, I end up getting hurt."

The problem, it seems, is that he doesn't know if women are after his giant brain (this is the man who wore a fake grill on the Olympian podium and coined the catchphrase "Jeah!" so by "giant brain" I might be using slight sarcasm) or for his public persona.

"I don't know if they're just after my fame and money or if they like me for who I really am."

But if he could find someone he really does like, what is he looking for?

"A girl that's fun, classy and sweet who I can have a conversation with," Ryan says.

"If she can make me smile and laugh, I'm sold!"

My advice for his next potential love interest? Pretend to take his nose. He would be so enamored of your magical powers, you'd be unstoppable.

Amanda Bynes

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Bynes gets her gym membership revoked for smoking pot

Amanda Bynes' outlandish behaviour reportedly got her kicked out of her New York City gym this weekend when she was caught smoking marijuana in the women's locker room, according to RumorFix.

Management at the Planet Fitness location even went so far as to revoke Bynes' membership.

"Planet Fitness does not allow lunks to work out here, and especially no weed-smokers," a staff member tells the site.

Bynes of course denies the allegations, telling RumorFix, "I don't smoke in the bathroom. I also don't smoke pot, I smoke tobacco."

Selena Gomez

Gomez's friends furious over latest reunion

As Selena Gomez's reunion with Justin Bieber appears to be heating up — the pair have reportedly been spotted holding hands, hugging and kissing during their European rendezvous — her friends are getting nervous.

"Selena's friends are furious that she's giving Justin another chance," a source tells Radar Online. "They've been trying to warn her that he's no good for her and that she should stay away from him, but she just loves the attention he gives her."

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In the land of Disney, the princess always reigned supreme. However, though Sleeping Beauty's Castle, the Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique and those ever-popular princesses may get a lot of the attention, Disneyland and California Adventure offer a pixie dustless world for the guys in your life too — all in time for Father's Day in June.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Four things for the boys in Disneyland

Cars Land

Route 66 comes to life for plain-old cars and animated Cars lovers alike. California Adventures' newest attraction is set in the world of Radiator Springs, where characters from the animated movie motor down Main Street. Rides include Luigi's Flying Tires, a modern floating-on-air version of bumper cars and Mater's Junkyard Jamboree, where tractors whip and spin you around. The highlight is Radiator Spring Racers, which takes you on a leisurely car ride through a wind-carved setting before drag racing your way to the finish line.

Don't miss: Characters from the animated film regularly park near the Cozy Cone Motel to have their photos taken.

Star Tours

Ask a 30- or 40-something father what his favourite movie was growing up — then ask his son the same question — and the likelihood is they may have the same answer: Star Wars. With Disney taking over control of the series, there may be more themed rides in the future. Until then, Star Tours is still the place in Disneyland to enjoy a ride through the galaxy while using the force to avoid the black-gloved wrath of Darth Vader. The 3D ride takes you on a Starspeeder, cruising at light speed through George Lucas' sci-fi universe.

Don't miss: A Jedi Training Academy takes place daily at the Tommorowland Terrace, where kids are shown how to use lightsabers.

Pirates of the Caribbean

This is one of the original rides at Disneyland — long before Johnny Depp swaggered his way through the films as Captain Jack Sparrow. And there's a reason why Pirates has always been popular: it's fun. The boat ride starts in the calm Louisiana Bayou but soon takes you deep into the dark world of hidden treasure, sea battles, and the pirate-terrorized town of Puerto Dorado. It may sound scary, but it has a number of light-hearted moments to tame the pirate terror.

Don't miss: Captain Jack Sparrow makes a number of appearances during the ride, so keep your eyes peeled for him.

Pirate's Lair on Tom Sawyer's Island

Located in a man-made lake on the edge of Frontierland, the island is a giant playground for kids of all ages. A river raft ferries you from the main park across to the island, where dirt trails lead you to hidden caves, hilltop forts, wood and rope bridges and pirate's treasures.

Don't miss: Take a boat ride around the island on the Mark Twain, a 1900s paddleboat, or aboard the pirate ship Columbia.

Looking for more Disney vacation ideas? Metro's Elisha Dacey is currently at Disneyworld in Florida with Breakfast Television and Cityline's recent contest winners. Check out her blog at metronews.ca

Where's the beef? All over the U.S.A., of course

Burger king.
George Motz tracks down the best burgers in America in his new Travel Channel series

If you love a good burger, you might think George Motz has the best job ever. He crisscrosses the country as the host of Travel Channel's new series Burger Land, looking for the best burgers in America.

He consumed 70 burgers in the three months it took to shoot the first season, exercising regularly to accommodate his indulgence. Now he's temporarily staying away from burgers to give his system a break.

Still, he said in a recent interview, "I crave a burger every single day."

One thing he stressed, however, is that all burgers are not created equal.

"One of the greatest dividing lines is the frozen patty versus the fresh meat burger," said Motz.

"It is very difficult for restaurants to keep fresh meat in the house, so the restaurants that are making hamburgers with fresh ground beef, it's not easy and they're doing the right thing."

He also says there's a lot of regional variety in burgers. Here are a few of his favourites from different parts of the U.S.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

George Motz is working hard to find you the best burgers. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

"If you're in Los Angeles there's Irv's Burgers. If you're new to Northern California, there's a place called Val's Burgers in Hayward. It's unbelievable."

BURGER BARONESS/FLICKR

Illinois

"Chicago is a great burger town. People love to eat in Chicago and they're not shy about expressing their love for food. They've got the famous Billy Goat. You've got to get the triple with cheese. Edzo's is a new place doing an old-school burger in Evanston and Lincoln Park, Ill." MASTERS OF MAPS/FLICKR

Connecticut

"There's a phenomenon known as the Steam Cheeseburger. It's a chunk of ground beef put into a steaming cabinet and the cheese is steamed right next to it and poured on like a molten goo. It's very unique only to Connecticut."

BENTANDBROKEN/FLICKR

New Mexico

"You have the green chile cheeseburger. (It) is a cheeseburger with green chile on top. They're hot and they're so good. You can only find them in West Texas, south Colorado and the entire state of New Mexico. It's the state burger."

TPULLIN/FLICKR

Texas

"Dallas has a good burger culture as well. There are a few places. One is called Keller's. It's a drive-in, (you) order a great burger and a beer from the driver's seat of your car. That's heaven to me. There's also a great place called Jack's Burger House with a few locations in the Dallas area. They're Greek-owned and they have a Greek spice they put on the burger. "

BURGERCLUB/FLICKR

Mississippi

"They have these things called the Slugburger or a doughburger. There's actually some kind of breading mixed into the meat, which is a throwback to the Depression and meat-rationing, when people would have to put something into the meat to extend it." SOUTHERN FOOD ALLIANCE/FLICKR

Washington, DC

"There is a very famous place called the Tune Inn. The hamburger is unique because it's a classic cheeseburger. No crazy toppings. You're blocks from the Capitol building. There's also Ben's Chili Bowl. They're very famous for their half-smoked with chili on top but the real reason to go there for me is to get the chili cheeseburger."

BURGER BARONESS/FLICKR

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With dueling nicknames of The Queen City for its beauty and Porkopolis for its love of, well, pork, Cincinnati cannot be pigeonholed. After decades of declining growth, Ohio's third-largest city is on a huge upswing, pumping billions of dollars into revitalization. In less than 10 years, the city has transformed itself back into a growing, bustling destination as businesses and residents flock to downtown and surrounding neighbourhoods.

STORY AND PHOTOS: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Five free things to do in Cincy

Over-the-Rhine

This picturesque neighbourhood, named and settled by German immigrants in the 19th century, has more buzz than anywhere else in Cincinnati. Over-the-Rhine sits just on the edge of downtown and was the site of the city's race riots in 2001. But block by block, the city and developers have retaken the neighbourhood that was once dubbed the most dangerous in America and transformed its shabby but beautiful buildings into some of the city's best bars and restaurants. Over-the-Rhine has the most Italianate architecture still standing in the U.S., and to many outsiders it looks more like it belongs in Brooklyn than Cincinnati. A must-see in the neighbourhood is Washington Park, which reopened in July after undergoing a $48 million overhaul to become one of the city's favourite spots for concerts, outdoor movie viewings, food trucks and flea markets.

Findlay Market

Cincinnati residents have been getting fresh meat, produce and homemade bread at Findlay Market since 1855, making it the oldest continuously running public market in the Buckeye State and one of the most beloved historic landmarks in the city. Families, hipsters, yuppies and tourists alike stroll through and shop at the more than two dozen indoor vendors and, from spring through fall, the outdoor farmers market. Wine-tastings, the best barbecue in the city and a popular Vietnamese restaurant are definitely not free, but the people-watching — which rivals any of Europe's public squares — is.

The Bridges

Of the many bridges that span the Ohio River between Cincinnati and northern Kentucky, two are worth crossing on foot. The Roebling Suspension Bridge, which sits between the Bengals and Reds stadiums in a bustling spot along the riverfront, is the most recognizable of all of Cincinnati's landmarks and was the model for New York City's Brooklyn Bridge. Pedestrians can walk across the bridge into Covington, Ky., and head due east into the quaint and beautiful Licking Riverside Historic District. From there, they can cross the Fourth Street Bridge over the Licking River and into Newport, Ky., and head back across to Cincinnati over the Purple People Bridge, a pedestrian-only span and a favourite among locals.

Fountain Square

The heart of downtown Cincinnati, Fountain Square underwent a $49 million renovation and reopened in 2006. From Reds and Bengals game-watching parties on a massive high-definition television screen and live salsa-dancing lessons that attract hundreds of people of all skill levels to near-daily concerts during nice weather, practically the only thing in Fountain Square that isn't free is the beer.

Mount Adams

A beautiful stroll in Cincinnati begins in lovely Eden Park — so named for the biblical paradise — and ends atop Mount Adams, which offers a stunning view of downtown Cincinnati and northern Kentucky. Walkers would be advised to begin in the picnic-worthy Presidential Grove, where each U.S. president has a tree named after him, before strolling by Mirror Lake and heading up the hill to Mount Adams. At the top is the Cincinnati Art Museum, which houses more than 60,000 works and is, remarkably, free. From here, one can walk around the picturesque streets of Mount Adams, visit two historic churches and take in some of the best views in the city.

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Travel smart

Some tips... on tipping

ON THE MOVE
Loren Christie
life@metronews.ca

Tipping can be the source of much angst when you're travelling. ISTOCK

Many front line staff in the hospitality industry rely on tips to make a living wage. Although I do believe that they should be earned, not expected, it is important to assume the best and factor in the appropriate gratuities when planning your next holiday.

For servers in North American restaurants you should be leaving 15 per cent before tax at a minimum, including cost of drinks. For exceptional service you could bump that up from 18 to 20 per cent. In Europe they often include the tip in the bill, but an additional five to 15 per cent is appreciated. In Australia and New Zealand, just leaving five per cent is acceptable. In the Scandinavian countries and Japan, you are not expected to leave anything.

If you are staying in for some room service, always check the bill to see if a service charge has already been added on. It usually is indicative of a pooled tip, to be divided up by the entire department. If your server was particularly good, you may wish to give something extra but are certainly not obliged to do so.

Hotel room attendants tend to be the forgotten ones of the hospitality world. I like to leave $2 to $5 per day on the bed with a note of thanks. If you prefer to give one tip at the end of a longer stay, leave an envelope at the front desk. Note your room and number and dates of stay on the envelope and that you would like it divided among all the staff that serviced your room.

Hotel porters and bellhops should receive $1 to $2 per bag and parking valets $2 to $5. Tip the valet up front to ensure better service when it's time to leave. Taxi drivers in North America expect a 10 to 15 per cent tip. In Europe, simply round up the fare and in most Asian countries don't worry about it. A concierge often provides the most varied of services, so an appropriate tip could be anywhere between $2 and $20 depending on the complexity of your request. I would consider a standard restaurant reservation on the lower end of the scale and securing last minute tickets to a sold out concert on the upper end.

Ottawa brings the North down south

Festival. Beginning this week, Canada's capital plays host to art and more — all from the land of the midnight sun

The National Arts Centre is bringing the North to the South this spring with a 10-day festival featuring northern artists, musicians, singers, chefs, writers and storytellers who blend the traditional with the contemporary.

Every two years, the centre showcases a region of the country. In 2011, it was the Prairies. This year, the North will be the focus from Thursday until May 4.

"We certainly do have probably the largest representation of artists from the North that's ever been brought together outside that region," said executive producer Heather Moore.

The festival features music and theatre, art and culture, food, film, fashion, fiddlers and folklore.

People will be able to sample smoked Arctic char tacos and elk poutine from a local food truck run by a former Yukon resident. Three northern chefs will be paired with three Ottawa chefs to try their own interpretations of char, reindeer and other northern fare.

As a whole, the Northern Scene offers a glimpse of an arts scene that many rarely see.

"I think people are going to be quite surprised at the scope and the variety and just how contemporary everything is," said Moore.

Some of the artists, such as Susan Aglukark, are household names, while others are unknown to people in the south.

"We've got very worldly people who have travelled everywhere and we've got some people who haven't been south of Fort Simpson" (in the Northwest Territories), Moore said.

In all, the festival features about 250 artists in more than 50 events. Moore said previous versions have attracted 50,000 people and she sees no reason this year should be different.

While some performances are already sold out, there are also free events. The arts centre itself, which sits on the bank of the Rideau Canal within sight of the Parliament Buildings, will be the main venue, from its foyer to its various theatres and studios. THE CANADIAN PRESS

If you go...

- **For more information.** Visit: nac-cna.ca/northernscene

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Lasagna gets an under the sea makeover — shrimp and all

ROSE REISMAN
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You can use any combo of fish you like in this creamy lasagna, but I like shrimp for its sweet flavour and firm texture. Don't use a fish that's too delicate or it will fall apart.

1. Preheat the oven to 375 F. Spray a 13- by 9-inch baking dish with cooking oil.

2. To make seafood mixture, heat the oil in a non-stick skillet over medium heat. Sauté the garlic, bell pepper and leeks for 5 minutes or just until tender.

3. Add the seafood and sauté until the fish is opaque, approximately 3 minutes. Pour off any excess liquid. Set aside.

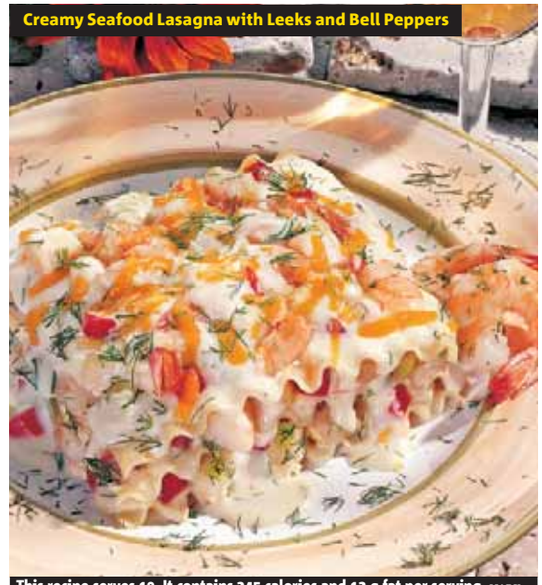
4. Combine the flour, stock, milk and mustard in a non-stick saucepan and stir until smooth. Simmer over medium heat until just thickened, approximately 4 minutes, stirring often. Stir in the dill, pepper and the seafood mixture. Remove from the heat.

5. For cheese mix, combine ricotta, 3/4 cup of cheddar, Swiss and Parmesan cheese in a small bowl, mixing well.

6. To assemble, place 3 lasagna noodles in prepared baking dish. Spread 1/3 of seafood mix over top, then 1/2 of cheese mix. Repeat for second layer. Top with remaining 3 lasagna noodles and remaining seafood mix. Sprinkle the remaining 1/4 cup cheddar cheese over the top. Cover with foil and bake approximately 30 minutes, removing the foil for the last 10 minutes of baking time. Allow to rest for 5 minutes before cutting and serving. **ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS) BY ROSE REISMAN**

Ingredients

- 1 tsp vegetable oil
- 2 tsp crushed fresh garlic
- 2/3 cup diced red or green bell pepper
- 2/3 cup diced leeks or red onion
- 1 lb seafood, cut into small pieces
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1 cup seafood or chicken stock
- 1 1/4 cups 2 % evaporated milk
- 1 tsp Dijon mustard
- 1/3 cup chopped fresh dill or 1 tbsp dried
- Pinch ground black pepper
- 1 1/4 cups smooth light ricotta
- 1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
- 1/2 cup shredded Swiss cheese
- 1/4 cup grated Parmesan cheese
- 9 cooked lasagna noodles



Creamy Seafood Lasagna with Leeks and Bell Peppers

This recipe serves 10. It contains 345 calories and 12 g fat per serving. MARK SHAPIRO, FROM ROSE REISMAN'S COMPLETE LIGHT KITCHEN (WHITECAP BOOKS)

Drink of the Week

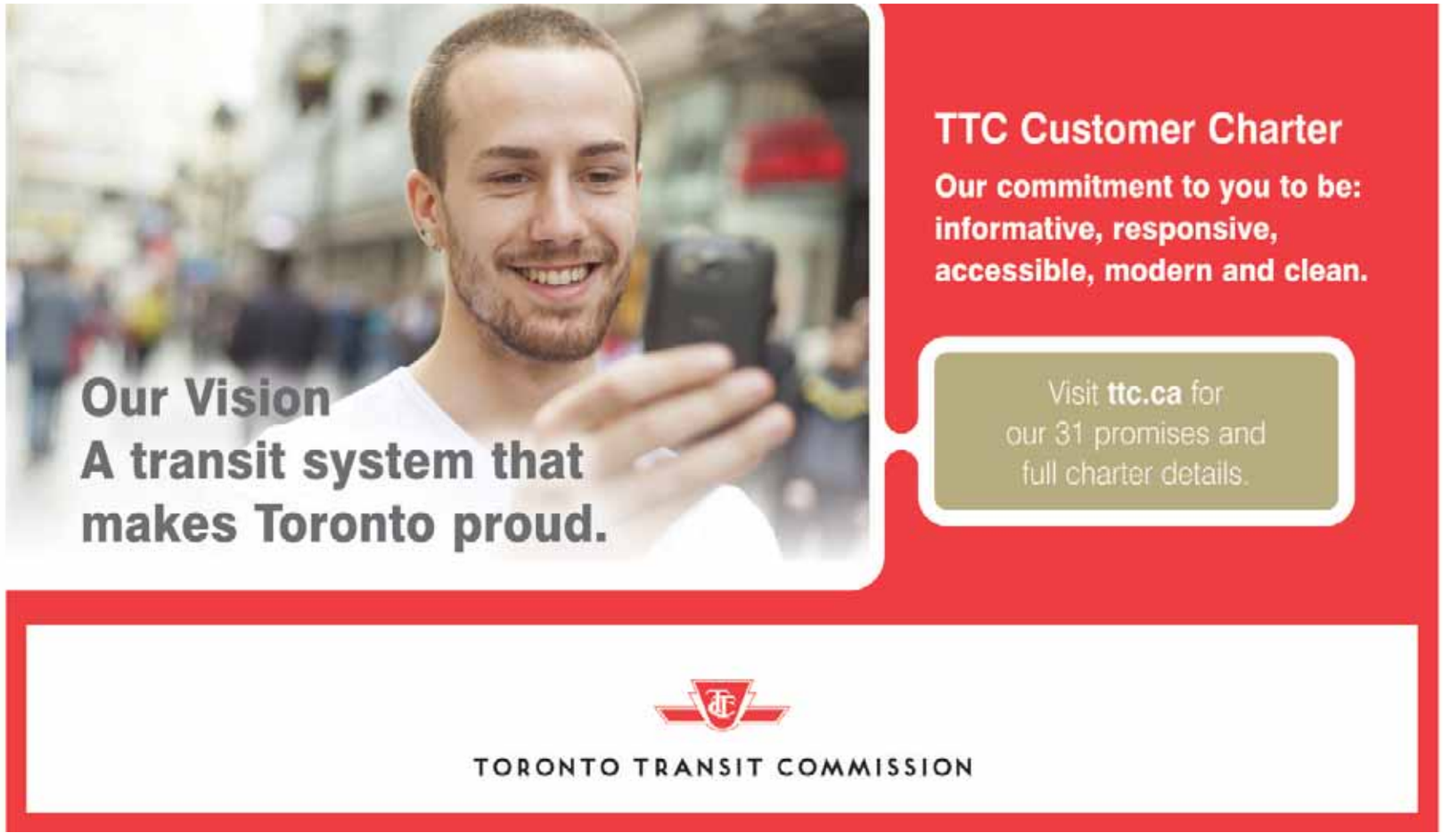
Thyme and Ginger Sour

An ideal mix of savoury and sour, this drink is perfect for a casual evening in with friends. It's easy to make and looks great, too.

- 2 oz Luksusowa
- 2 oz fresh lime juice
- 1/2 oz simple syrup
- 2 oz ginger beer
- fresh thyme to garnish

Shake Luksusowa, lime juice and syrup with ice and pour into a rock glass. Top with ginger beer and garnish with fresh thyme.

COURTESY OF NISHAN NEPULANGODA, MIXOLOGIST AND BAR MANAGER, BLOWFISH/ PHOTO BY YBIMC



Want an insurance job? Shine your shoes

Jobs. What to expect, how to prepare, and how to follow up after your big interview

CASSANDRA JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

If you really want to impress an insurance employer in a job interview, it all comes down to one thing: always be prepared.

One of the biggest mistakes students and recent graduates make is coming in unprepared, says Trevor Buttrum, Career Connections (career-connections.info) program manager at the Insurance Institute of Canada.

Being unfamiliar with the company, being unable to make connections or draw parallels between your experience and the role, or showing up late are the three biggest insurance industry job interview don'ts, he adds.

Keep reading to find out what to expect during, how to prepare for and how to follow up after your next job interview with an insurance employer:

What to expect

Most interviews for insurance jobs involve a two-step process:

The telephone screen

The process may start with a telephone screen conducted by a recruiter in the company's human resources department. "The telephone screen is designed to confirm that you meet the criteria for the position, establish your understanding of the role, and get a sense of your style or approach," Buttrum explains.

The in-person interview

If you meet the requirements of the telephone screen, it will usually be followed by one or two in-person interviews that may now include the hiring manager and other colleagues involved in the process. "Don't let it throw you if it is a panel interviewing you — these are now common place!" Buttrum says.

The in-person interviews will most likely be behavioural or competency-based, he says. "Think, 'Tell me about a time when…' or scenarios that get at how you might handle various aspects of the job. The employer is looking for you to make connections between what you have done and how it will help you to be successful in your potential new role."

How to prepare

Find out what you'll need

When you're invited for the interview, whether it's by phone or email, always ask if there's anything that you should bring. Here's why:

"I once had an employer say, 'Good thing you asked, I almost forgot to mention that we would like to see an example of a presentation you have developed. Could you supply us with a version on a USB key?'" Buttrum recalls. "I would have never just 'had one on hand' in an interview."

Know yourself

In a job interview situation, knowing exactly how your education and experience will benefit the employer and the role you've applied for is half the battle.

Ideally, you've already determined this in order to tailor your resumé and apply for the job in the first place, but if not, learn as much as you can about the role and map out how you fit the bill, Buttrum says.

Think you can just wing it during your next job interview? Think again.
ISTOCK IMAGES

Practise your answers to typical job interview questions with a trusted friend or career counsellor and introduce examples from your experience into the conversation. Buttrum recommends using the STAR method to help you answer the interviewer's questions:

- Situation — Setting the stage: Who, when, where, why? (five per cent of your answer).
- Task — What did you do? What was your role? (five per cent of your answer).
- Action — How did you do it? What steps did you take? (70 per cent of your answer).
- Result — What happened? What was the outcome (20 per cent of your answer).

Do your research

How much do you know about the company, its business, core values and any other unique aspects to it?

"Web research, reading trade publications, checking out examples of their consumer marketing and talking to industry professionals are great ways to gain these types of insights," Buttrum explains.

"This information enables you to further tailor your answers to the employer's questions and might help you develop some of your own."

Dress for success

"Insurance is a traditional industry and, although business casual is becoming the norm for day-to-day in the workplace, it is suggested that you go business formal for the interview," Buttrum advises.

What does that mean? "Suit jackets, blazers, pressed pants, blouses, collared shirts, ties, nicely-shined shoes and knee-length skirts are what come to mind," he adds.

How to follow up

Should you or shouldn't you? When and how often? These are all questions that tend to plague students and recent graduates following their job interviews.

What to bring to the interview

- Printed copies of your resumé, both for your reference and in case they don't have one.
- A notebook and pen so you can take notes.
- Your references, printed on a single sheet, in case the employer would like to review or contact them following your interview.

"Before you leave the interview, ask what the next steps are in the process and when the employer anticipates moving forward in their decision making," Buttrum recommends. "Keep this date in mind and use it as a temperature gauge for when to follow up next."

From there, don't push too hard. "Like any relationship, high frequency or intensity followup can send the wrong message," he says, adding that the process may be taking slightly longer than expected, hiring may not be the person's primary responsibility and other priorities may have arisen since your interview. "Be sure to give the employer a little leeway."

Frame your followup as checking in to see where they are in the process rather than asking whether or not they have reached a decision, and let the employer know you are happy to answer any questions or provide additional information which might support the process, Buttrum advises.

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Five ways to choose an employer

As a student or recent graduate who wants to hatch a career in insurance, it can be tempting to apply to any and all insurance employers that are hiring. But not every employer offers the same experience. Here are five strategies for choosing the insurance employer that is right for you:

CASSANDRA JOWETT
TalentEgg.ca

Looking for a place to fold your umbrella and drop you briefcase? There are a few things to consider first. ISTOCK

Company size

There are more than 200 employers in the insurance industry, some with more than 5,000 employees and some with as few as five employees. They operate in major cities, like Toronto, Calgary and Vancouver, and in small towns across the country. Company size may be a consideration for you if you're looking for a close-knit family environment (smaller) or the opportunity to work in a number of different departments and locations (larger). Many insurance employers will mention how many employees they have on their TalentEgg profile, LinkedIn profile or on their corporate website in the About Us or Careers sections.

Insurance niches

Insurance can cover everything from vehicles and homes to health and pets, casinos and churches, and everything in between. While many of the large insurance companies offer a wide variety of insurance policies, there are some that specialize in certain industries or types of risk.

If your experience, expertise or interest lies in one of those areas, it may help you narrow down which employer to start your career with.

The National Insurance Marketer is designed to help Brokers look for markets for their specialty, niche and non-standard risks.

Support for professional development

As an aspiring insurance professional, you're probably eager to put a few letters after your name, such as CIP, CAIB or CRM, just to name a few (that's Chartered Insurance Professional, Canadian Accredited Insurance Broker or Canadian Risk Management for those not in the know). Perhaps you even want to pursue an MBA or post-graduate certificate related to insurance part-time while you work. No matter what your professional development plans are, it's essential that your employer is, at the very least, morally supportive of your endeavours.

Community work and social responsibility

At the end of the day, insurance companies are for-profit businesses and many of them are very profitable — it's one of the reasons why the insurance industry is such a stable place to start a career.

Most insurance employers make it a priority to find ways to invest those profits back into the communities in which they operate through employee volunteer work, fundraising and charitable donations.

Check out the Corporate Social Responsibility or Community sections of companies' websites.

The people

Current employees are invaluable sources of information. After all, they already know exactly what it's like to work for their employer and can tell you everything you won't find in a job listing or corporate website. Plus, if you get along well with some of the people who already work there, chances are you'll have no trouble fitting in. Meet insurance professionals on your campus. Real insurance professionals working for dozens of different employers often volunteer their time to speak with students about career opportunities in the industry.

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LOYAL RELATIONSHIPS

FLEXIBLE PLANS MAKE POINTS PROGRAMS ATTRACTIVE TO CANADIAN CONSUMERS

Canadians truly love loyalty programs. The 2011 Colloquy Loyalty Census revealed 120.7 million loyalty memberships in this country — impressive, given that there are less than 35 million Canadians. Canadian Tire money, a proto-points program conceived by the appropriately named Muriel Billes, has been going strong since 1958.

To what do we owe this loyalty to loyalty? You might argue that Canadians aren't the most rebellious people. You might argue that we love a deal — though many countries have more ferocious bartering cultures than ours. It's probably a bit of both. But what makes loyalty programs most attractive for Canadians is their flexibility.

Choice. Options. Big concepts, expressed in a small, but meaningful way through programs from WestJet, Air Miles, Aeroplan, Shoppers Optimum, PC Points, and hundreds more from banks, credit card companies and other organizations. Some of these programs let you accumulate points for years, if you wish — saving up for that big-ticket item you have dreamed about. What makes that trip or product so special says a lot about you.

How you earn your points says a lot, too. You do it by being you — by shopping at the places you like to shop, buying the things you like to buy. You can build points by choosing credit, like the Target RBC MasterCard, instead of cash, or by using online retail instead of the traditional kind. Maybe the loyalty program itself is one of the reasons you are shopping there, but these days, almost every vendor has a program of some kind — this is Canada, after all.

Your lifestyle, needs, and personal choices inform how you build points, and how you redeem them. Aeroplan, for example, allows you to redeem your points not just for plane flights, but other travel-related products and services, such as luggage and car rentals; and even items that have nothing to do with travel, like home furnishings and power tools. You can even donate to charity. While the range of products offered by bookstores, grocery stores or theatres may not be that wide, they are certainly varied enough to suit many tastes.

These are our points — we earned them. And what we do with them is up to us.

– Chris Edwards

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"Our currency isn't miles or points," says Robert Palmer, manager, public relations. "If you have 300 WestJet dollars in your rewards account, you have the equivalent of $300 Canadian dollars you can spend with us. No mental gymnastics required."

It's flexible, too. WestJet dollars can be spent on any vacation package or flight the carrier operates, even during seat sales. There are no blackout periods or limited seating. So long as the flight is a new booking, you can use your WestJet dollars to reduce its cost. Like most loyalty programs, WestJet dollars do not cover taxes, fees and charges, but you can use any amount to cover the base fare, starting with as little as 25 WestJet dollars.

As a member of WestJet Rewards, you will earn progressively more WestJet dollars per total spent on WestJet flights in a given year. When your spending reaches certain milestones, WestJet offers bonuses, such as a Jet-Away package, including a companion flight, lounge passes, and more.

You can also build up WestJet dollars by making purchases with one of two WestJet RBC MasterCards. Cardholders earn up to 1.5 per cent back on any purchase they make — unless they are spending on flights or vacation packages with WestJet, in which case they will earn up to two per cent. New applicants receive a welcome bonus of up to 250 WestJet dollars when they make their first purchase with the card. Holders of the WestJet RBC World Elite MasterCard also receive an annual $99 round-trip companion flight (excluding taxes, fees, and charges), which can be used anywhere WestJet flies within Canada or the contiguous United States.

"The program continues to grow and evolve, offering additional value to our guests," Palmer says. "It's not just about loyalty — it's about working to earn your business every day, then rewarding you for being our guest."

For more about WestJet Rewards, visit westjet.com/rewards.

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LOYALTY HAS ITS REWARDS

DIFFERENT RBC INITIATIVES OFFER A BREADTH OF CHOICE

There once was a time when travel rewards programs were anything but consumer friendly. Fortunately, those days are well behind us.

"With the RBC Rewards program, we put the needs of our customers first," says Donna Lue-Atkinson, RBC's vice-president of global loyalty programs and rewards.

"We recognize the value of flexibility and treating every client as a unique individual. We also want the experience to be easy for clients to use and offer them the range of choice they're looking for in a rewards program."

To demonstrate this breadth of choice, Lue-Atkinson points to different initiatives within RBC Rewards.

"Some people want a highly personalized travel service. For those clients, we have a strategic relationship with Carson Wagonlit Travel. Our customers visit one of their store locations or call in and get the full-service approach they're seeking, redeeming their points at point of sale. Other clients prefer self-service, and for those clients, we have a partnership with Travelocity, a one-stop end-to-end online experience. Customers can book their air travel, car rental, cruises, hotels and more online."

Today's rewards programs don't start and end with travel, however.

"In December 2012, RBC Rewards launched eMall on our website to address the growth of online shopping," Lue-Atkinson says. "Through this portal on our site, consumers can access more than 250 retailers, including Apple, Hudson's Bay, Indigo Books & Music, Gap and Old Navy. By using their RBC Rewards credit card to make purchases, clients get one extra point for every dollar they spend above and beyond their regular rewards.

"Clients can also redeem points for RBC financial products, converting reward points to top up an RBC RRSP or to pay down an RBC loan or line of credit. It's another way our customers can use points to extend their purchasing power."

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TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS

LOYALTY PROGRAMS CAN HELP BUILD A CUSTOMER BASE

Tealish, a Toronto-based tea shop.

CONTRIBUTED

Customer loyalty is an integral part of any successful business strategy. Building a highly loyal customer base not only means that people will continuously do business with your brand, but are more likely to provide a recommendation to their family, friends and social connections following a positive experience.

One successful method to garner and reward dedicated customers is through loyalty programs, which instill the belief that customers are getting something back from the brands with which they regularly do business.

When thinking of loyalty programs, large organizations such as airlines, movie theatres and hotel chains are often the first that come to mind as having well-established opportunities for rewards. However, small businesses should also take note of what this strategy could mean for their business's success.

This relationship between small businesses and their customers is one that works both ways. Shop Small, a recent program launched by American Express, celebrates the value small businesses bring to local communities. The American Express Shop Small Monitor reveals that 81 per cent of customers feel they owe it to their community to support small businesses. In return, loyalty programs are a way for small businesses to retain loyal customers and create incentives to attract new customers.

Tealish, a Toronto-based tea shop on Queen Street West, is a great example of a participating Shop Small business that seeks to reward such loyalty through the implementation of its own loyalty program. By using the mobile app Punchd, customers can simply scan the bar code on their receipt and earn a free drink after the purchase of their first 10 beverages.

In terms of attracting new business, a recent American Express Quarterly Monitor found that 28 per cent of small business owners believe that implementing a loyalty program is the most effective strategy to attract new business and 26 per cent say it provides the best return on investment. This rings true for Tealish, whose program is so popular that it has increased foot traffic through the referral of loyal customers, some of whom visit the store twice daily.

"Our loyalty program makes people feel they are a part of a community and brings that little bit extra to the customer experience," says Alyssa Garrison, Tealish. "It's also an effective incentive which helps us to compete with some of the larger chains."

AROUND THE WORLD

WITH AMERICAN EXPRESS GOLD REWARDS

Lisa Ng

CONTRIBUTED

Can you imagine a world where every dollar you spend brings you one step closer to your next travel adventure? Imagine no more with the American Express Gold Rewards Card.

Thousands of Canadians are enjoying the benefits that come with being an American Express Gold Rewards Cardmember, where purchasing everyday essentials like gas and groceries can take them to Paris, Hong Kong or another dream destination faster.

Lisa Ng of The Hip & Urban Girls Guide, a popular lifestyle blog based in Toronto, has experienced first-hand that there is nothing like a holiday that's paid for, or even partly paid for, with reward points earned from buying essentials and big ticket items.

"For most of us, stocking up on groceries, filling up on gas or a trip to the drugstore is unavoidable" Ng says. "Knowing that every dollar I spend is earning me points that I can use for my next travel adventure makes these everyday buys a lot more exciting."

The blogger and travel fanatic recounts some of her most memorable travel experiences redeemed with points since becoming a Gold Rewards Cardmember in 2010.

MADRID — When Ng was on assignment in Madrid, she used her points to fly her husband over for a spontaneous Spanish getaway. The pair spent a weekend wining and dining at Madrid's wonderful tapas bars.

HAWAII — After a road trip to L.A. from Toronto on Route 66, Ng decided to take her travels a little further west and hopped on a plane to Hawaii. Since she was already in California, the flight didn't cost many points and she was able to spend the last leg of her holiday hiking around active volcanoes and soaking up the tropical sun.

NEW YORK CITY — New York is the perfect short-haul destination and even more accessible using Gold Reward points. Ng recently cashed in some points for a leisurely trip to the Big Apple where she spent her weekend strolling through High Line Park with a coffee from Chelsea Market and sipping cocktails at The Standard Hotel.

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WHAT YOU GET: Points can be used toward flights on any airline, at any time, with no blackouts or seat restrictions. You can also redeem them for holiday packages, car rentals, cruises, travel-related merchandise, and more.

AMERICAN EXPRESS GOLD REWARDS CARD

TYPE OF PRODUCT: Charge card
HOW IT WORKS: You charge everyday items to your card to earn points. You earn double points for every dollar in eligible travel, gas, grocery, and drugstore purchases.
WHAT YOU GET: Points can be transferred to frequent flyer programs, or one-to-one to Aeroplan or Avios. Or you can charge travel to your card, then call AMEX to redeem your points.

SCOTIABANK GOLD AMERICAN EXPRESS CARD

TYPE OF PRODUCT: Charge card
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TARGET RBC MASTERCARD

TYPE OF PRODUCT: Charge card
HOW IT WORKS: As a cardholder, you save five per cent on almost any purchase made at a Target store in Canada. You also earn Target GiftCard rewards on purchases made elsewhere.
WHAT YOU GET: Target GiftCard rewards can be redeemed for a Target GiftCard.

WESTJET RBC MASTERCARD

TYPE OF PRODUCT: Charge card
HOW IT WORKS: As a cardholder, you earn up to 1.5 per cent back in WestJet dollars on any purchase you make — and up to two per cent if you are spending on flights or vacation packages with WestJet.
WHAT YOU GET: WestJet dollars can be spent on any vacation package or flight the carrier operates, even during seat sales.

CANADIAN TIRE OPTIONS MASTERCARD

TYPE OF PRODUCT: Charge card
HOW IT WORKS: You charge everyday items to your card to earn Canadian Tire "Money" On The Card rewards.
WHAT YOU GET: You can put Canadian Tire "Money" On The Card rewards you have earned toward the purchase of products sold at a Canadian Tire store.

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TYPE OF PRODUCT: Rewards card
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NHL

Caps deal big blow to Jets' hopes

Considering how they started, it's quite the achievement that the Washington Capitals got to the playoffs with time to spare.

The Capitals clinched the Southeast Division title Tuesday night, completing a stark turnaround in a lockout-shortened season with a 5-3 win over the Winnipeg Jets.

The Capitals blew a two-goal lead, survived a pair of replay reviews and exhaled deeply when defencemen John Erskine cleared two shots off the goal line.

The loss keeps the Jets in ninth place in the East, one point away from the playoffs but with slim chances of moving up because they have only one game remaining. The Ottawa Senators, in eighth place at the start of Tuesday's play, have three games left.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA

Pacers' George earns most improved honours

Indiana forward Paul George was honoured Tuesday as the NBA's Most Improved Player.

The announcement came less than a week after the six-foot-nine forward finished his breakthrough regular season and less than 48 hours after he became only the second player in franchise history to record a triple double in the NBA playoffs.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Blue Jays first baseman Edwin Encarnacion, left, lies on the ground after tagging out Orioles baserunner Nate McLouth on Tuesday night in Baltimore.
GAIL BURTON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays' continue to tumble in Baltimore

MLB. Machado, Gonzalez carry Orioles as Toronto fails to dig out of second-inning hole

On Tuesday

Orioles	Blue Jays
4	3

Manny Machado had two hits and two RBIs, and the Baltimore Orioles used a four-run second inning to beat R.A. Dickey and the Toronto Blue Jays 4-3 on Tuesday night.

Miguel Gonzalez (2-1) allowed three runs in six innings for the Orioles, who have won nine of 13. By taking the first two games of the three-game set, Baltimore improved to 5-2 in seven series this season — including 4-1 against the AL East.

It was the 100th consecutive game the Orioles have won when leading after seven innings, a streak that began in August 2011. Baltimore is 4-3 in one-run games after starting 0-3.

Edwin Encarnacion hit a three-run homer for the last-place Blue Jays, who have dropped six of eight.

Dickey (2-3) gave up four runs, six hits and five walks in six innings. The knuckleballer, who left his previous start with neck and back pain, did not appear to be in discomfort on the mound. But he didn't look like the reigning NL Cy Young Award winner during the pivotal second inning.

Dickey was outdone by Gonzalez, who allowed five hits and three walks. The Orioles right-hander blanked Toronto on three hits through five innings before staggering through the sixth.

In the eighth, after the Blue Jays put runners at the corners with two outs against Pedro Strop, Melky Cabrera looked at a third strike on a 3-2 pitch.

Jim Johnson got three outs for his eighth save in eight tries, striking out J.P. Arencibia with a runner on first to end the game.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bucks can't hang with Heat in 4th quarter

Heat forward LeBron James shoots Milwaukee's John Henson on Tuesday night in Miami. WILFREDO LEE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Game 2

Heat	Bucks
98	86

Dwyane Wade scored 21 points, LeBron James finished with 19 and the Miami Heat took off in the fourth quarter to pull away and beat the Milwaukee Bucks 98-86 in Game 2 of the Eastern Conference first-round series on Tuesday night.

Chris Bosh, Shane Battier and Chris Andersen all scored 10 points for the Heat, who lead the best-of-seven 2-0. Game 3 is on Thursday in Milwaukee.

The Heat scored the first 12 points of the fourth quarter, needing just over two minutes to blow open what had been a three-point game.

Ersan Ilyasova scored 21 points for Milwaukee, which got 16 from Mike Dunleavy and 14 from Larry Sanders. The Bucks' starting guards, Brandon Jennings and Monta Ellis, combined for only 15 points.

And an already-daunting task for Milwaukee — beating the reigning NBA champions — just got a lot tougher. James is 10-0 when his teams have a 2-0 series lead, and Wade is 8-0 in that situation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

4 SPORTS

Nelsen to get taste of a tamer rivalry

MLS. Intensity in Toronto-Montreal series may not match manager's experience of Blackburn-Burnley

No stranger to derby matches during his own days as a player, Toronto FC manager Ryan Nelsen knows emotions run high whenever Toronto and Montreal meet.

But not as high as when Nelsen's Blackburn Rovers played nearby Burnley.

"The most intense game I've ever experienced," Nelsen said Tuesday of the Lancashire matchup between the northwest English neighbours. "I've experienced Tottenham-Arsenal but it was nowhere near the Blackburn-Burnley one. There's a real hatred there."

Nelsen recalled how a female police officer was knocked out by a Burnley fan who had invaded the field hoping to get a piece of Blackburn midfielder Robbie Savage. That 2005 FA Cup meeting also saw a breakdancing male streaker and a coin thrown at a Burnley player, even though there were 600 police on duty.

TFC manager Ryan Nelsen
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

"It's absolutely huge," Nelsen said Tuesday of the Blackburn-Burnley rivalry. "It's way bigger than most people know in England."

Nelsen gets a taste of the Toronto-Montreal rivalry on Wednesday as the two meet in the first leg of the Canadian Championship semifinal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recruiting abroad

Toronto FC has ended its bid for Argentine forward Maximiliano Urruti.

- But manager Ryan Nelsen says an announcement is expected soon on another Argentine. The MLS club has not identified who that is but it is widely believed to be midfielder Matias Laba.
- Nelsen also confirmed interest in veteran Bolton Wanderers forward Kevin Davies.

Bayern bashes Barca 4-0

Barcelona's Lionel Messi, right, challenges Bastian Schweinsteiger of Bayern Munich during the UEFA Champions League semifinal first leg on Tuesday in Munich. Thomas Mueller scored two goals as Bayern dominated Barcelona in a 4-0 victory. CHRISTOF KOEPSEL/BONGARTS/GETTY IMAGES

NFL

Security beefed up for draft in New York

The NFL is increasing security for this week's draft at Radio City Music Hall in New York, with everyone subject to screenings, including use of metal detectors and pat-downs, and searches of personal property.

Even league officials, players and their families will be subject to such measures.

The league said Tuesday that spectators who don't consent to the security requirements will be refused admission. The draft begins Thursday night and has sessions Friday night and Saturday afternoon.

All sports events have ramped up security since the Boston Marathon bombings last week.

Those adjustments also will mean about 20 per cent more security personnel and increased K-9 explosive detective teams on site. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Relax, it's Acura 2014 RLX

Review. RLX's 'takaburi' all begins with a wild set of headlights

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

"Takaburi" is the word Acura's project leader Yousuke Sekino uses in describing the 2014 RLX sedan. It means "exhilarating" in Japanese and if any car in Honda's premium division fits that description, this is it.

Acura has been noticeably bereft of a truly top-level flagship model with that 'takaburi' feeling for some time. The long-in-the-tooth RL sedan that resembled a slightly enlarged Accord from two generations ago never really cut it with those seeking flash and dash.

The replacement RLX, arriving by early spring, likely won't pry anyone from their status-mobiles models displaying three-pointed stars, interconnected rings or airplane-propeller logos. But at least Acura offers some compelling reasons for having the valet gang park one for you in its assigned stall.

The RLX's more aggressively styled front fenders, smoothed-out grille and unique multi-reflector headlight pods contribute to a distinctly premium look.

Much of the between-the-wheels increase gives the RLX an impressive amount of rear-seat legroom that puts its key Japanese and German competitors to shame.

The rest of the interior also impresses, with an elegant dashboard and control-panel layout, inviting and supportive leather-covered seats and a floor console that can be opened from the driver or passenger's side.

Although not obvious in flat-out driving, the RLX certainly feels poised and precise in tight turns and provides a no-sweat experience when braking at high speeds.

The RLX arrives with an abundance of people-pampering content, but you will need to shell out more than the $50,000 base price to add a number of collision-mitigating features, the navigation system, premium leather package and your choice of two high-end audio systems.

The RLX is a giant leap forward for Acura and is comparable to more established luxury brands in style and content, with a smidgen of "takaburi" tossed in for good measure.

2014 Acura RLX

- **Type.** Four-door front-wheel drive mid-luxury sedan
- **Engines (hp).** 3.5 litre SOHC V6 (310)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed automatic with paddle-shift controls
- **Base price (incl. destination)** $50,000

Design

The first thing you notice about the RLX is its handsome sheet metal. The car's Honda roots are definitely showing, but it easily beats the rest of Acura's sedan fleet when it comes to appearance. Perhaps surprisingly, its overall dimensions — length, width and height — differ only slightly from the RL.

Weight

The rigid body structure uses considerable amounts of high-strength steel that, combined with numerous aluminum body panels, helps keep the car below the 1,820-kilogram mark. That's roughly 45 kilograms lighter than the RL.

Engine

The RLX clings to its V6 roots by using a 310-horsepower 3.5-litre unit that produces 272 pound-feet of torque. By comparison, the RL's 3.7-litre V6 made 300 horsepower and 271 pound-feet of torque. The engine prefers premium fuel, but the RLX is rated at 10.5 l/100 km in the city and 6.4 on the highway.

The RLX's interior fits well and is neat and tidy. The centre console can be opened from the left or the right.

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Designers to China: You have our attention

Autopilot. The huge Chinese vehicle market will, inevitably, influence what ends up on our roads

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
drive@metronews.ca

The Nissan Friend-ME debuted at this week's Shanghai auto show to possibly woo the world's largest cohort — the 240 million (mostly male) Chinese born in the 1980s, known as the "Balinghou." HANDOUT

The Shanghai motor show on this week further confirms the importance of the Chinese market to today's global automakers.

They showed up in droves bearing metaphorical boxes of chocolates and actual concepts and production cars. And why wouldn't they?

Good to be big

China is by far the single largest vehicle market in the world — selling more than 20 million units a year. The next biggest market, the U.S., is about 15 million. GM sells more vehicles in China (about 2.8 million) than it does in America.

Size is just one thing. Potential is another. In the U.S. there are currently 800 cars for every 1,000 people. That's one saturated market. In China, it's currently about 50 to 80 vehicles per every 1,000 people. That's upside with hot sauce. In five years China's annual market is expected to top 35 million units.

It's a free for all

And what's making automakers even more crazy about China is that the market is still up for grabs. No dominant player. Lots of domestic and foreign players investing in production and retail facilities. Lots of current and future segment races to be won and lost.

Driving the design bus

Net result: A massive amount of intellectual and monetary design capital is being focused on China at the moment, and that will reverberate across all global markets.

This is not to say that the Chinese market will darken the design light in other markets, only that what's going on in China will surely influence global design trends. There's no way it can't.

At the very least, we here in the North American market get to "yea or nay" automotive designs that are already fleshed out and/or contemplated for China.

Take for example the Nissan Friend-ME concept, which had its world debut at Shanghai. Nissan says it has been expressly designed to appeal to the world's largest single market demographic — the approximately 240 million Chinese born in the 1980s, tagged as the "Balinghou."

Because of China's "one child" policy, the majority of the Balinghou demographic are males without siblings. They are in their mid-20s now and ready to buy. (They might be somewhat over parented too, but let's not go there today.)

"Clearly, their tastes will shape automotive trends worldwide for decades to come," said Nissan's product strategy chief, Francois Bancon, in a press release.

Because they grew up without siblings, and leisure time with peers is treasured, Nissan figured the Friend-Me could give these Balinghou males a private-yet-connected space to hang out with peers, and a "balanced" design that allows them to "stand out" and "fit in" at the same time. And speaking to China's growing urbanity, another aim of the design is to be a "confident creature of the night, meant to be seen in bright city lights."

I don't know how much you, or I, have in common with a 20-something male in China, who has no siblings but loads of personal and familial expectations, but it you watch automotive design over the next few years, we might find out.

Complex car components can be costly

Driving force. Auto parts: The more they make, the less they cost

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

A car may be expensive to buy, but it's also expensive to build. In addition to the cost of raw materials, plant overhead and labour, automakers also have to consider the design and development of each component.

"Before we stamp out the first part, there are significant costs associated with design, product validation, capital equipment and tooling that must be paid for up front, or agreed to be amortized across the production run," says Patrick Kinsie, executive director of global business development for Multimatic Inc., which makes various parts for several auto companies.

While simple parts will have relatively smaller start-up costs, the price for complex ones can be astronomical. Developing a completely new engine or transmission can be as much as $500 million to $1 billion.

Quoted

"There are companies that run profits making a handful of hand-built engines, but they charge a much higher price for them."

Patrick Kinsie, executive director of global business development for Multimatic Inc..

Car companies spread these enormous costs over volume production, including numerous variants. An engine design may stick around for some 15 years, with engineers creating new or differently-sized engines based on its architecture. There will still be considerable cost involved for these, but it will be much less than starting from scratch.

Vehicle platforms are designed so they can be used to create several new models with common componentry, spreading the initial cost and recouping it as soon as possible.

Depending on the part, automakers may produce it in-house or work with independent suppliers. There are many ways these companies work together, including the car manufacturer handing over a production-ready design for the supplier to build, or providing the size and performance requirements and having the supplier design and develop it, known in the trade as full black-box design.

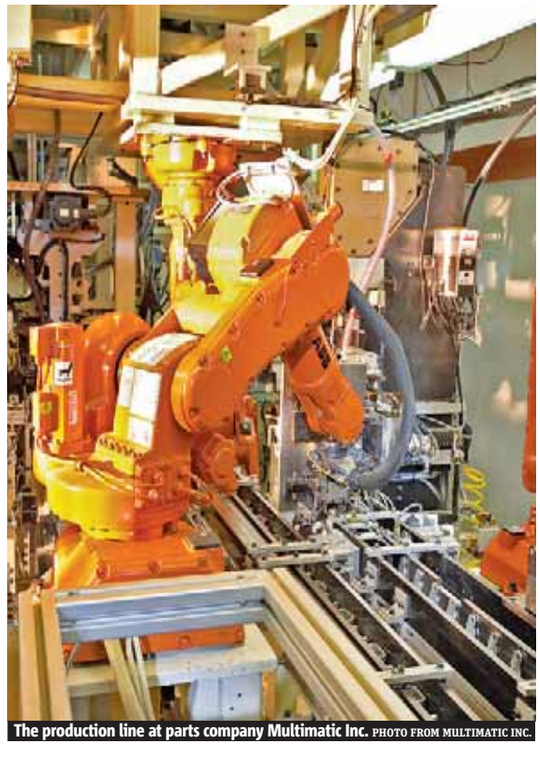
New designs are initially made into prototypes to make sure they'll work properly, and if they're structural, they will need to be crash-tested. Once the parts are validated, expensive dies are made to stamp them out in large quantities.

"There are companies that run profits making a handful of hand-built engines, but they charge a much higher price for them," Kinsie says. "In a mainstream vehicle, the automaker will want to make it in the millions to get that unit amortization down to a reasonable level."

Methods used

Automakers often use generic parts from suppliers for much of their hardware, such as window motors or trunk hinges, but use proprietary parts for differentiation in powertrain and design.

- **Working together.** Some car companies work jointly on major projects, such as the "world engines" designed by Chrysler, Hyundai and Mitsubishi, spreading the cost of the basic architecture.
- **Standards.** Global vehicles sold in Canada must meet federal requirements, including safety standards, metric instruments and bilingual labels and manuals, which add to their cost.



The production line at parts company Multimatic Inc. PHOTO FROM MULTIMATIC INC.

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Check up vital on stylish R8

Second Gear.
2010 to 2012
Audi R8

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

PHOTO: HANDOUT

When Audi's mid-engine R8 performance car hit the road in 2009, it was pasted in poster form onto the bedroom walls of drooling teenaged car-buffs around the globe while earning a reputation for being an extreme performance machine with incredible driving dynamics and every-day usability.

Feature content included navigation, a Bang and Olufsen stereo system, Bluetooth, MMI Interface, driver computer, heated leather and plenty more. A backup camera with distance sensors was available, too. All models are two-seaters with a trunk in the front and a V8 or V10 engine in the middle.

Common Issues

Start your visit with a used R8 candidate by inspecting the vehicle's tires and brakes. Ensure the seller isn't passing off a set of rubber or brake pads and rotors that are in need of replacement. A tire tread-depth gauge can help. Squealing brakes are a sign of wear and a mechanical inspection at an Audi dealer should be considered mandatory.

Check all interior electronics twice — paying attention to the MMI system and ensuring it activates, boots up and manipulates various functions properly. Ensure no "check engine" or "service vehicle" notifications are present in the instrument cluster. Shift the manual transmission quickly, ensuring the clutch "bites" hard, and works without slippage. Some owners report electronic dialing-back of engine power when shifting quickly if the clutch is slipping, which is intended to increase durability. Finally, inspect the R8's paint for signs of blotchiness.

Engine

This range-topping Audi got Quattro AWD teamed to a 4.2 litre, 420-horsepower V8 and a six-speed manual transmission as standard kit. Shoppers could opt for an up-level V10 engine, which bumped displacement to 5.2 litres and horsepower to 525. An "R-Tronic" auto-clutch gearbox was available on both models.

What owners like

Owners love the exclusivity, style, performance and bragging-rights that come as part of the R8's package. Ease of entry and exit and an everyday-comfortable ride are noted.

What owners dislike

Limited cargo storage and a sometimes-fussy MMI interface are among the most common owner complaints.

Verdict

Reliability information is largely inconclusive on used R8 models in the first half of this generation — though they are a hot item in the used market nonetheless. Opt for a model with as much of its factory warranty remaining as possible to be safe. Extended warranty, if available, may protect against high repair bills down the line, too.

Fix your bad car-care habits one at a time

Five useful tips.
Follow these pieces of advice to improve the longevity of your vehicle and save cash

Breaking bad habits can be hard, especially if you don't even know you have one. It's the same when it comes to car care.

Many of us aren't aware when we commit a car-care faux pas which could affect the look and longevity of our vehicle. Autoglym, a company specializing in car care products, offers the following advice to correct some common bad habits:

1. Clean your car consistently throughout the year.
Create a routine and set a specific day to wash your vehicle. Washing your car at least once or twice a month is recommended to maintain a superior finish.

2. Don't skip the polish and wax.
If you fail to polish and wax your car every few months, opting only to wash it, you're only doing half the job — so make sure you do it right. Combining the polishing and waxing steps every few months are essential for your car's care. Polishing is an important step to repair and revive your car's shine, while waxing protects your car's paintwork against environmental factors and weather conditions. A quick way to maintain your wax on the go is to apply Autoglym's Aqua Wax. With this, there's no need to dry your car after washing, saving you time and effort.

3. Make sure to clean your tires.
Cleaning your wheels is a quick and easy way to improve the overall look of your car. Not only does it make them look great, but regular cleaning prevents the build-up of brake dust, which if left will become difficult to remove. Don't neglect your tires either — a high quality dressing will refresh old rubber, leaving it like new.

4. A little elbow grease in the undercarriage goes a long way
It's not just about the paint — clean the undercarriage of your car frequently. If you don't, rusting won't be your only problem, as the metal in your frame can become brittle and lead to an expensive bill on your next safety inspection.

5. Deal with the problem spots immediately
Don't leave cleaning bird droppings and dirt until later, as these problem spots will become harder to remove the longer you leave them on your car. Tree sap is particularly damaging, as it dries very hard and attaches itself to your car with a tar-like bond.

NEWS CANADA

Regular cleaning should result in your vehicle's life being lengthened. NEWS CANADA

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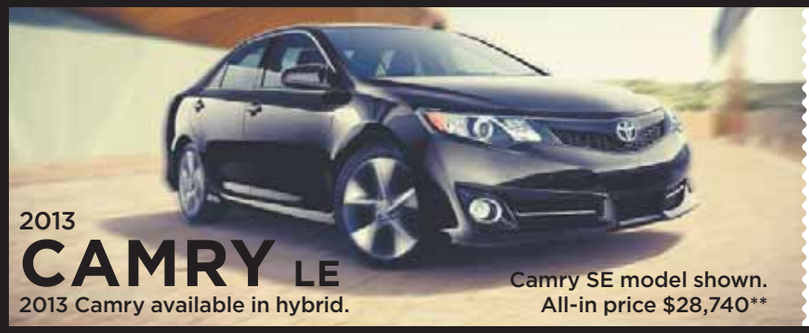
TOYOTA RED TAG DAYS



2013
CAMRY LE
2013 Camry available in hybrid.

Camry SE model shown.
All-in price $28,740**

ALL-IN PRICE $25,455* Includes freight and fees. HST extra.

ALL-IN FINANCE

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2013
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Manual transmission.

ALL-IN FINANCE

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bi-weekly for 84 months with $0 down payment
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Includes freight and fees. HST extra.

ALL-IN PRICE $17,005*
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ALL-IN FINANCE

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TOYOTA

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Spring cleaning

Three simple steps to make your car shine

There's no time like spring to clean your car and get it ready for the sunny open road. To get the best car shine for the new season, Autoglym recommends the following steps:

Step 1 – Wash
Wash your vehicle regularly; doing so will help to preserve the finish of your car's paintwork. Avoid household detergents as they can have a dulling effect on your paintwork. Instead, use a product designed for car washing.

Step 2 – Polish
Many of us tend to skip the polishing step and go straight to waxing — don't make this common mistake. Polishing not only corrects paintwork and rectifies imperfections such as light scratches and swirl marks, but it also restores colour and shine.

Step 3 – Protect
Waxing is an important final touch to protect your car's paintwork against harmful environmental factors such as bird droppings and sap. Unlike polish, waxing contains no cleaning or restoring agents and should only be used to seal in the result achieved from polishing.

NEWS CANADA

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2007 HONDA CIVIC LX MTR	White	4Door, 5 Speed, A/C, ABS, PW, PL. PM, Alloys, Stereo/CD, Cert., Excellent Condition	50,261KM	70898	$10,888
2008 HONDA ELEMENT EX 4X4	Brown	4x4 AU AC Stereo/cd , Moonroof-loaded Alloys Cert Balance of Warranty, Mint Condition	43,765KM	6673	$18,388
2009 HONDA CIVIC DX-G	Blue	4DRS AU A/C ABS PW PL PM Stereo/cd Alloys Cert., Balance of Warranty	39,574KM	90292	$13,888
2009 HONDA ACCORD EX	Blue	4DRS 4CY A/C ABS PW PL PM CD P.Sunroof Alloys Cert., Like New, Balance of Warranty	21,195KM	90772	$19888

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Evantra debuts to dropping jaws

The Mazzanti Evantra V8. HANDOUT

Mazzanti wows Monaco. Orders for the exotic V8 now being taken but bring lots of cash and patience

Italian supercar fans now have one more model to lust over.

Italian coachbuilder Mazzanti has formally introduced the Evantra V8 at the 2013 Top Marques Monaco show, having released CAD renderings of the supercar at the end of last year.

Jaws dropped as the vehicle was revealed and it's no surprise as only five individually personalized units will be handmade in Italy each year, with the bespoke supercar powered by a Corvette-sourced V8 engine capable of blasting out 701hp.

The naturally aspirated engine can propel the Evantra from 0-62 mph in just 3.2 seconds, and thanks to a super strong carbon fibre body, total weight for the Mazzanti Evantra is a paltry 2,866 pounds.

Power from the mid-mounted Corvette engine — which boasts titanium valves and connecting rods — is sent to the rear wheels via a paddle-shifted six-speed sequential transmission.

F1 and Le Mans consultant Ysim helped to fine-tune the car's design for optimal aerodynamic efficiency, while highlights of the chassis include 20-inch OZ alloys, Brembo brakes (with optional carbon-ceramics), and electronic adjustment of the engine and transmission ranging from Strada to Corsa.

There are also two body choices: Pro-Body is made of carbon-fibre composite, and the One-Body is made of aluminum, which can be personalized to customer's exact specifications resulting in a one-off finish.

The interior is swathed in leather prepared with a special aniline treatment, and can be customized with a range of options including exotic leather and precious materials.

The centre console sports data acquisition system from AIM and a Bosch audio-navigation system, while the Tricolore engine start button can be found on the headliner and the Nardi steering wheel contains a small display indicating the current gear.

Each Evantra takes months to complete and will doubtless come with a seven-figure price tag.

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2013 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK: SMALL SUV

MODEL RM3H3DES

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Mazda's warning system helps you toe the line

Futuristic. Handy camera-aided lane departure safety feature gives driver extra piece of mind

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

When you're driving, even a moment's inattention can be dangerous or even deadly. Drivers always have a responsibility to focus on the task, but many automakers add an extra measure of safety with several devices, including Mazda's lane departure warning system.

"It's a camera-based system that visually detects the lane markings," says Sandra Lemaitre, national manager of public relations for Mazda Canada. "It looks for white lines, continuous or dotted, and works on pattern recognition."

Mounted on the inside of the windshield at the base of the rear-view mirror, the camera looks ahead, just as the driver does. When it "sees" a white line, the system compares it to the patterns in its program, confirming that it is the correct width and length to actually be a line. The system works at speeds above 65 km/h.

If the driver slowly veers out of the lane, the system will sound a warning. Depending on how the driver has set the selectable warning, this will sound either when the car gets close to the white line, or actually touches it. The warning can also be chosen by the driver: either a beep, or a digital sound profile that mimics the sound of tires going over rumble strips. Depending on which side of the car crosses the line, the rumble strip sound will come out of the left or right stereo speaker, overriding any music that's playing.

The warning system is designed to identify inattention, rather than intent. It will not warn if the driver has the turn signal on, or if he or she moves the wheel sharply. "It will determine that you did this on purpose," Lemaitre says. "It's looking for a pattern of behaviour that indicates inattention. If I'm not paying attention, or perhaps falling asleep, I'll tend to slowly drift out of my lane."

The windshield-mounted camera is part of Mazda's i-ActivSense system, which also uses radar and lasers for technologies that will adjust the cruise control speed when following other vehicles, turn the high-beam headlights on or off, warn an inattentive driver if a car has stopped ahead, and at low speeds, brake the vehicle if necessary to avoid a collision. "All of the technologies are there to aid the driver, not be in place of the driver," Lemaitre says. "We're a driver's brand so we don't want to automate the driving experience."

Quoted

"All the technologies are there to aid the driver, not be in place of the driver."

Sandra Lemaitre, national manager of public relations for Mazda Canada
On the new lane departure system.

This icon will appear if you veer out of your lane. ALL PHOTOS JIL MCINTOSH

The system is included in the above 2014 Mazda model.

Differences

- Some lane departure systems will apply brake pressure on one side of the vehicle, guiding it back into the lane if the driver does not take action when warned.
- Depending on the auto manufacturer, the sensors or cameras for lane departure warning systems may be in the side mirrors or front grille.

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*Limited time finance purchase offer available through Volkswagen Finance, on approved credit. MSRP of $16,385/$26,600 for a new and unregistered 2013 Jetta 2.0L / 2013 Tiguan 2.0T base model with 5/6-speed manual transmission, including $1,395/$1,610 freight and PDI, financed at 2.4%/2.9% APR for 84/72 months equals 182/156 bi-weekly payments of $97.89/$185.18. $0 down payment. Cost of borrowing is $1,431.20/$2,413.33 for a total obligation of $17,816.20/$29,013.33. PPSA fee, license, insurance, registration, any dealer or other charges, options and applicable taxes are extra. Models shown: 2013 Jetta 2.5L Highline, $24,590 / Tiguan 2.0T Highline R-Line, $41,125. Models shown for illustration purposes only. Models may not be exactly as shown. Certain conditions apply. Dealer may sell or lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Offers end April 30, 2013 and are subject to change or cancellation without notice. Visit vw.ca or your Volkswagen dealer for details. "Volkswagen", the Volkswagen logo, "Das Auto & Design", "Autobahn for All", "Jetta" and "Tiguan" are registered trademarks of Volkswagen AG. © 2013 Volkswagen Canada.

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2013 Dodge Journey R/T AWD shown.[§]

37 MPG HIGHWAY 6.7 L/100 KM HWY

2013 IIHS TOP SAFETY PICK

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2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew Plus shown.[§]

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+Your local retailer may charge additional fees for administration/pre-delivery that can range from $0 to $1,098 and anti-theft/safety products that can range from $0 to $1,298. Charges may vary by retailer.

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Less Fuel. More Power. Great Value is a comparison between the 2013 and the 2012 Chrysler Canada product lineups as applicable. 40 MPG or greater claim (7.0 L/100 km) based on 2013 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption estimates. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. See retailer for additional EnerGuide details. ¤2013 Dodge Journey 2.4 L with 4-speed automatic – Hwy: 7.7 L/100 km (37 MPG) and City: 11.2 L/100 km (25 MPG). 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package – Hwy: 7.9 L/100 km (36 MPG) and City: 12.2 L/100 km (23 MPG). Wise customers read the fine print: ◊, €, •, *, †, ≤, § The Load Up On Value Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating retailers on or after April 2, 2013. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. All pricing includes freight ($1,595), air tax (if applicable), tire levy and OMVIC fee. Pricing excludes licence, insurance, registration, any retailer administration fees, other retailer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. ◊Ultimate Journey Package Discounts available at participating retailers on the purchase of a new 2013 Dodge Journey R/T with Ultimate Journey Package (JCES49 28X with AGV, AV1, AS4, GWG). Discount consists of: $2,500 in Bonus Cash that will be deducted from the negotiated price after taxes; and (ii) $1,125 in no-cost options that will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. €$5,625 in Total Savings are available on the new 2013 Dodge Journey R/T model and consist of $2,000 Consumer Cash Discount and $3,625 in Ultimate Journey Package Savings. $10,275 in Cash Discounts are available on the new 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT model and consist of $7,000 Consumer Cash Discount and $3,275 in Ultimate Family Package Savings. See your retailer for complete details. •$19,995 Purchase Price applies to the new 2013 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package (22F) only and includes $2,000 Consumer Cash Discount. $19,995 Purchase Price applies to the new 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (29E) and includes $8,100 Consumer Cash Discount. *Consumer Cash Discounts are offered on select 2013 vehicles and are deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. †4.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2013 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package (22F)/2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (29E) models to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Retailer may sell for less. See your retailer for complete details. Examples: 2013 Dodge Journey Canada Value Package (22F)/2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Canada Value Package (29E) with a Purchase Price of $19,995/$19,995 (including Consumer Cash Discount) financed at 4.49% over 96 months with $0 down payment, equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $115/$115 with a cost of borrowing of $3,843/$3,843 and a total obligation of $23,837.61/$23,837.61. ≤Ultimate Family Package Discounts available at participating retailers on the purchase of a new 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan SXT with Ultimate Family Package (RTKH5329G). Discount consists of: (i) $2,500 in Bonus Cash that will be deducted from the negotiated price after taxes; and (ii) $775 in no-cost options that will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. Some conditions apply. See your retailer for complete details. §2013 Dodge Journey R/T AWD shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $31,640. 2013 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew Plus shown. Price including applicable Consumer Cash Discount: $31,940. ^Based on 2013 *Ward's* Middle Cross Utility segmentation. The Best Buy Seal is a registered trademark of Consumers Digest Communications LLC, used under license. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc.

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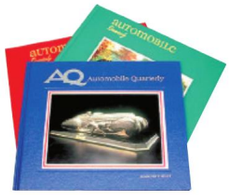
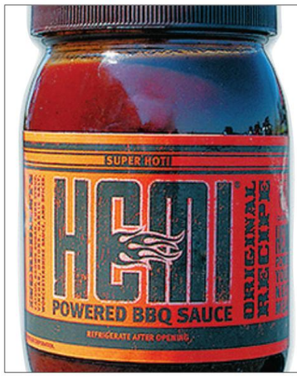
Read the classics



One of the best car-buff books has to be Automobile Quarterly. This richly bound publication, which bills itself as "the connoisseur's publication of motoring — today, yesterday and tomorrow," has been around since 1962, yet rarely advertises beyond its website and doesn't display any advertising within its pages. What you get are expertly written and edited stories about significant automobiles past and present and the people who have contributed to making them great. Throw in some great current and historic photos plus excellent artwork and Automobile Quarterly becomes a must-have, must-read book that would be a welcome addition to any enthusiast's library. A one-year subscription costs $100 a year in Canada and can be ordered at autoquarterly.com

Give a gearhead ring

A ring with moving parts is sort of a rarity, but it's just the sort of gift that any mechanically inclined car buff would love to wear. Creator Glen Liberman from New York teamed up with "kinetic designer" Ben Hopson in developing the Gear Ring, a fascinating piece of stainless-steel finger jewelry complete with precision-made miniature gears that revolve in unison when the outer rings are turned (perfect for people who always need something handy to fiddle with), The Gear Ring is available in 10 standard sizes (a sizing chart can be downloaded from the company's Web site) and can be shipped worldwide for $165 US. To watch the video or to order, head over to kinektdesign.com.



Hotrod BBQ sauce

Chrysler's ubiquitous "Hemi" V8 is one of North America's most recognizable engine brands. So it only makes sense that the automaker takes advantage of its notoriety and license the Hemi name for use on other products. Even food, such as the Hemi BBQ sauce that is being marketed by racing-parts specialists Arrington Performance. The contents come in a collectible 18-ounce (530-millilitre) glass jar that will make a great conversation piece at your next dinner or tailgate party. A jar retails for $6 and can be obtained from shophemi.com.

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MODEL CODE: E6SD63 AA00

FINANCE THE 2014 MAZDA CX-5 FROM...

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MODEL CODE: NVXK64 AA00

FINANCE THE 2014 MAZDA 6 GX FROM...

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MODEL CODE: G4XL64 AA00

FINANCE THE 2013 MAZDA CX-9 FROM...

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BI-WEEKLY FOR 84 MONTHS
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EXCLUDES HST.
STANDARD FEATURES INCLUDE: 3.7L V6 ENGINE W/273HP & 270 LB FT OF TORQUE, 3500 LB TOWING CAPACITY, 5.8" DISPLAY SCREEN WITH REARVIEW BACKUP CAMERA, PRIVACY GLASS, FRONT & REAR AC W/3 ZONE CLIMATE CONTROL, AM/FM HD/CD W/MP3 CAPABILITY/USB/AUXILARY INPUT & 6 SPEAKERS, HEATED FRONT SEATS, STEERING WHEEL MOUNTED AUDIO & CRUISE CONTROL W/ BLUETOOTH HANDSFREE PHONE SYSTEM, AUTO-DIMMING REARVIEW MIRROR W/HOMELINK, POWER GROUP WITH KEYLESS ENTRY, REAR ROOF SPOILER, TCS, DSC, ABS, 6 AIRBAGS & MUCH MORE.
MODEL CODE: QVSB83 AA00

Disclosure: Offer available on retail purchase financing of new 2013 Mazda3 GX (D4XS53AA00)//2013 Mazda 3 Sport GX//2013 Mazda 5 GS//2014 Mazda CX-5 GX// 2014 Mazda 6 GX// 2013 Mazda CX-9 GS 2WD with a finance APR of 0.99%//0.99%//0.99%//3.99%//3.99%//2.99% and bi-weekly payments of $89//$97//$128//$139//$149//$196 for 84 months, the total finance obligation is $17,852//$18,894//$24,892//$28,346//$29,346//$39,594, including down payment of $1,595//$1,325//$3,269//$2,995//$2,695//$3,995. Finance payment includes freight and P.D.E. of $1,695//$1,695//$1,895//$1,895//$1,695//$1,895. Offers exclude HST. Offered financing available to retail customers only. Finance offers vary by trim level/model. Offers valid until April 30th 2013 or while quantities last. Hurry In!!!CALL 416-789-4521/VISIT WWW.YORKDALEDUFFERINMAZDA.CA TO BOOK A TEST DRIVE.

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Think before you act and resist the urge to be provocative. You may think you can get away with just about anything but that isn't true, and will be even less true as the week goes on.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You would like to make an intelligent assessment of a situation but how can you when the facts are confusing? Don't worry. A few days from now everything will be clear and you'll know what to do.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Today's link between Jupiter in your sign and your ruling planet Mercury will encourage you to see things in a more open and optimistic fashion. Life is as good as you want to make it, today and every day.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
Take care when dealing with people in positions of power because some of them are in a touchy mood. Wherever possible, keep a distance between you.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may have strong opinions about certain issues but if you are smart, you won't make a big deal of them. Even if facts and figures are on your side just keep quiet and let others argue among themselves.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will say too much today. With your ruler Mercury nicely linked to Jupiter, planet of excess, you just can't keep your mouth shut. And why should you when you're right?

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
According to the planets, you are in the mood to say and do things that shock. That's OK but make sure you know what the possible consequences could be, especially the financial consequences.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
You may be feeling quietly confident about your chances but if you are wise you won't take anything for granted over the next 48 hours.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Honesty is your best policy today, even if it means telling a friend something they may not want to hear. Jupiter, your ruler, will help you say it in a way that doesn't hurt their feelings.

♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
If it feels right to make a snap decision today then do so. Even if you are acting on limited information there is every chance you will reach the right conclusion, and maybe hit the jackpot financially too.

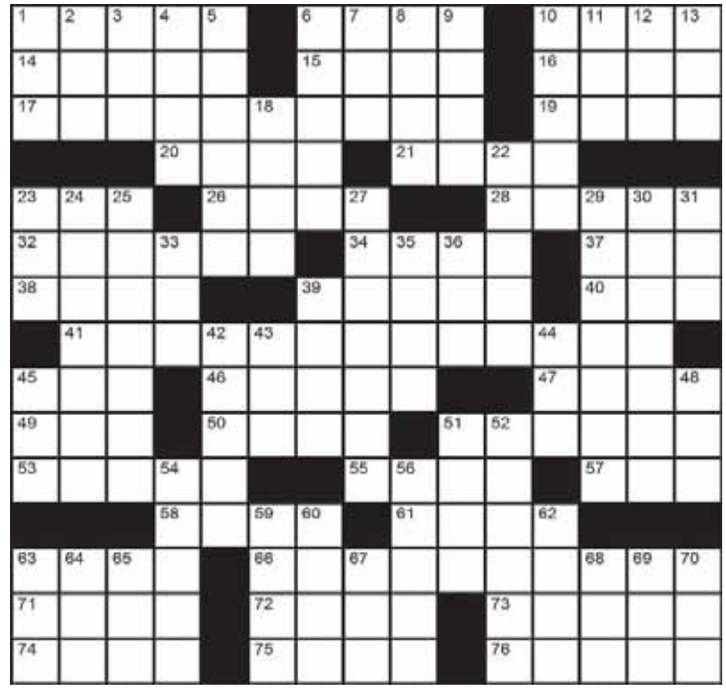
♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You need to make a decision about your work but you are torn between two different approaches. How do you resolve this dilemma? A second opinion will help you establish your own opinion.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
You will need to put on a brave face, especially if you get news that seems to be the opposite of what you were hoping to hear. The key word there is "seems", because most likely it is good news. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



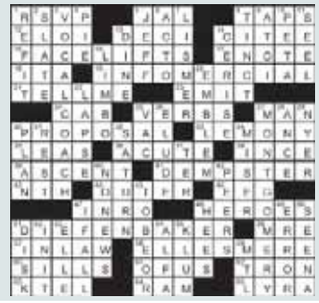
Across

1. "__ I Say" by Ray Charles
6. Cooking amt.
10. Shania Twain's "I __ No Quitter"
14. "Well, golly!!"
15. Competed, __ _ race
16. Midday
17. Movie re-viewer: 2 wds.
19. Fair
20. Gull-like bird
21. Money in Mexico
23. World Series org.
26. Finales
28. __, Oklahoma
32. Tenner, in time
34. Scotch stuff; it's sticky
37. Job, for short
38. Chat
39. "Rio" band, when doubled
40. Rocker Mr. Adams, to pals
41. Who writes Metro's In Focus column?: 2 wds.
45. 6's phone letters
46. Ornamental containers
47. Base
49. Eggs come in one [abbr.]
50. San __, Italy
51. Fabric softener brand
53. Fashion mag
55. Unaccompanied
57. Greek alphabet's 17th letter
58. Drawn dog
61. Dove sounds
63. Canadian telecom company
66. On-camera acting audition: 2 wds.
71. Seed's protector
72. 'Bulg' add-on
(Country in Europe)
73. "Best _ __ Had" by Drake
74. Count on
75. Trevor __ (Tony-winning Cats director)
76. Antique-style water carriers

Down

1. Panda-symbol org.
2. Masses, with Polloi
3. Pointy tool
4. Canadian coffee chain, affectionately
5. Like some back-yards
6. Set of three
7. Ghost's pet
8. Cut
9. Walking speed
10. Variety of pear
11. Promise to pay
12. Yeses opposites
13. AC/DC song: "_-_-_."
18. Written†symbol of yore
22. Shorthand, shortly
23. Summer hrs. in Alberta
24. Foo Fighters song: "____ Fly"
25. CFL players in the West: acronym + wd.
27. MGM and Para-mount, and others
29. East Coast catch
30. Newfoundland rum
31. 'Delic' suffix
33. US dog org.
35. Bows
36. __ excellence
39. Snare, for one
42. Bible king
43. 'Passion' suffix
44. Function
45. 1200 in ancient Rome
48. Tip to 'pia' (Near-sightedness)
51. Ice mass
52. Canuck coin
54. Canadian actress Ms. Parker
56. "Caribbean Queen" singer Billy
59. "This __ __ un-expected surprise!"
60. Light brown
62. K-__ ('Twilight' flicks actress, nick-named)
63. Chocolate __
64. Earlier, olde-style
65. Abner of comics
67. Tin Tin's lead-in
68. Adam and __
69. Religious address, briefly
70. Mr. Knight's, formerly of "Grey's Anatomy"

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

					7	5		
			3	8		6		
3	7	8				9		
6			2		1		4	
	2						6	
	9		8		3			5
		4				1	5	7
		2		9	4			
		6	5					

Yesterday's Sudoku

9	3	1	2	5	4	8	7	6
2	4	8	7	6	1	5	9	3
6	5	7	9	3	8	1	2	4
1	7	2	6	9	5	4	3	8
3	8	6	4	1	2	9	5	7
5	9	4	8	7	3	2	6	1
7	6	5	1	4	9	3	8	2
4	2	3	5	8	7	6	1	9
8	1	9	3	2	6	7	4	5

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Dep May 2 | Ret May 6, 7	Dep May 4, 6, 7 | Ret May 9, 14	Dep May 4, 5 | Ret May 9	Dep Jun 3 | Ret Jun 25	Dep Jun 3 | Ret Jun 25	Dep Jun 11 | Ret Jun 19
INCLUDES ALL TAXES & FEES	INCLUDES ALL TAXES & FEES	INCLUDES ALL TAXES & FEES	INCLUDES ALL TAXES & FEES	INCLUDES ALL TAXES & FEES	INCLUDES ALL TAXES & FEES

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OFFER ENDS APRIL 30TH

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kia.ca

0%** FINANCING ON ALL 2013's + PAY 90 DAYS**

– ON SELECT MODELS –

BONUS

TURBO UPGRADE CREDIT $2,300

EX TURBO MODEL = FINANCE ONLY

HWY (A/T): 5.6L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 8.6L/100KM

Optima SX Turbo shown△

2013 OPTIMA

INCL. AIR, KEYLESS ENTRY & HEATED SEATS

OWN IT FROM $136≠ BI-WEEKLY | WITH $0 DOWN | AT 1.49% APR | OR

RECEIVE UP TO $4,000 IN CASH SAVINGS‡ (ON SELECT MODELS)

FEATURES	2013 OPTIMA LX MT	2013 Honda Accord LX MT	2013 Ford Fusion S AT
Horsepower (hp)	200	185	170
Cooling Glove Box	✓	✗	✗
Sirius^ Satellite Radio	✓	✗	✗
Fog Lights	✓	✗	✗

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT**. Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$500 LOAN SAVINGS**§. Offer based on 2013 Optima LX MT with a purchase price of $23,983.

HWY (M/T): 5.3L/100KM
CITY (M/T): 6.9L/100KM

Rio4 SX with Navigation shown△

2013 RIO 4-DOOR

INCL. AIR, KEYLESS ENTRY & HEATED SEATS

OWN IT FROM $95≠ BI-WEEKLY | WITH $0 DOWN | AT 1.49% APR

INCLUDES 6 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS ON US* ON RIO ONLY

FEATURES	2013 RIO 4-DOOR LX + MT	2013 Toyota Yaris 5-Door LE MT Conv. Pkg.	2013 Ford Fiesta Sedan MT
Horsepower (hp)	138	106	120
Fog Lights	✓	✗	✗
Cruise Control	✓	✗	✗
Satellite Radio	✓	✗	✗

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT**. Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$900 "6 BI-WEEKLY PAYMENTS ON US" SAVINGS***. Offer based on 2013 Rio 4-door LX + MT with a purchase price of $17,383.

HWY (A/T): 5.5L/100KM
CITY (A/T): 8.0L/100KM

Forte SX shown△

2013 FORTE SEDAN

INCL. AUTO, AIR & KEYLESS ENTRY

OWN IT FROM $109≠ BI-WEEKLY | WITH $0 DOWN | AT 0.9% APR | OR

RECEIVE UP TO $4,000 IN CASH SAVINGS‡ (ON SELECT MODELS)

FEATURES	2013 FORTE LX + AT	2013 Honda Civic LX AT	2013 Mazda3 GX with AC
Horsepower (hp)	156	140	155
6-Speed Auto Transmission	✓	✗	✗
More Passenger Volume (L)	2,740	2,678	2,665
More Cargo Volume (L)	415	353	335

bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT**. Offer includes delivery, destination, fees and **$1,500 LOAN SAVINGS**§. Offer based on 2013 Forte Sedan LX + AT with a purchase price of $20,683.

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*5-year/100,000 km worry-free comprehensive warranty.

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Prices do not include licensing or applicable taxes.

KIA

The Power to Surprise

Offer(s) available on select new 2013 models through participating dealers to qualified retail customers who take delivery by April 30, 2013. Dealers may sell or lease for less. Some conditions apply. See dealer for complete details. Vehicles shown may include optional accessories and upgrades available at extra cost. All offers are subject to change without notice. All pricing includes delivery and destination fees up to $1,650, $34 tire recycling/filter charges, $5 OMVIC fee, environmental fee and $100 A/C charge (where applicable) and excludes licensing, registration, insurance, other taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399) and down payment (if applicable and unless otherwise specified). Other lease and financing options also available.**0% purchase financing is available on select new 2013 Kia models O.A.C. Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for complete details. Representative financing example based on 2013 Sorento LX + AT (SR75BD) with a selling price of $29,078, financed at 0% APR for 60 months. 130 bi-weekly payments equal $224 per payment with a down payment/equivalent trade of $0. ***Don't Pay For 90 Days" offer (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing on select new 2012/2013 models. No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After 90 days, interest accrues and the purchaser will repay both the principal and interest monthly over the contract's term. ****6 Bi-Weekly Payments On Us" offer is available on approved credit to eligible retail customers who finance or lease any new 2013 Rio from a participating dealer between April 2-30, 2013. Customers will receive a cheque in the amount of six payments (excluding taxes) to a maximum of $900 per month or can choose up to $900 reductions from the selling/lease price after taxes. See your dealer for complete details. Offer ends April 30, 2013. Cannot be combined with "Don't Pay For 90 Days" offer. *Bi-weekly finance payment O.A.C. for new 2013 Optima LX MT (OP541D)/2013 Rio4 LX + MT (RO542D)/2013 Forte Sedan LX + AT (FO74PD) based on a selling price of $23,983/$17,383/$20,683 is $136/$95/$109 with an APR of 1.49%/1.49%/0.9% for 60 months, amortized over an 84-month period. Estimated remaining principal balance of $6,961/$4,886/$5,605 plus applicable taxes due at end of 60-month period. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. §Loan savings for 2013 Optima LX MT (OP541D)/2013 Forte LX + AT (FO74PD) is $500/$1,500 and is available on purchase financing only on approved credit. Loan savings vary by model and are deducted from the selling price before taxes. Some conditions apply. ‡"Up to $4,000 cash savings" offer is available on the cash purchase of select new 2013 Optima/2013 Forte models from a participating dealer between April 2–30, 2013, is deducted from the selling price before taxes and cannot be combined with special lease and finance offers. Some conditions apply. ^Turbo upgrade credit for 2013 Optima EX Turbo models (OP74XD/OP74YD) is $1,800 and is applicable to purchase/lease/finance of a new 2013 Optima EX with a Turbo engine (OP74XD/OP74YD) only and is deducted from the negotiated selling price before taxes. $2,300 Turbo upgrade credit consists of $1,800 + $500 loan savings. Certain restrictions may apply. See dealer for details. △Model shown Manufacturer Suggested Retail Price for 2013 Optima SX Turbo AT (OP74BD)/2013 Rio4 SX with Navigation AT (RO74BD)/2013 Forte SX Luxury AT (FO74XD) is $35,550/$23,450/$27,150 and includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, environmental fee and A/C charge ($100, where applicable). Licence, insurance, applicable taxes, variable dealer administration fees (up to $399), tire recycling and filter charges of $34, OMVIC fee and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. Available at participating dealers. ˚Highway/city fuel consumption is based on the 2013 Optima 2.4L GDI 4-cyl (A/T)/2013 Rio4 1.6L GDI 4-cyl (M/T)/2013 Forte 2.0L MPI 4-cyl (A/T). These updated estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on driving habits and other factors. ^SIRIUS - Available in the 10 provinces and 3 territories of Canada and the 48 contiguous United States. Monthly subscription sold separately after 3 trial months. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of printing. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.